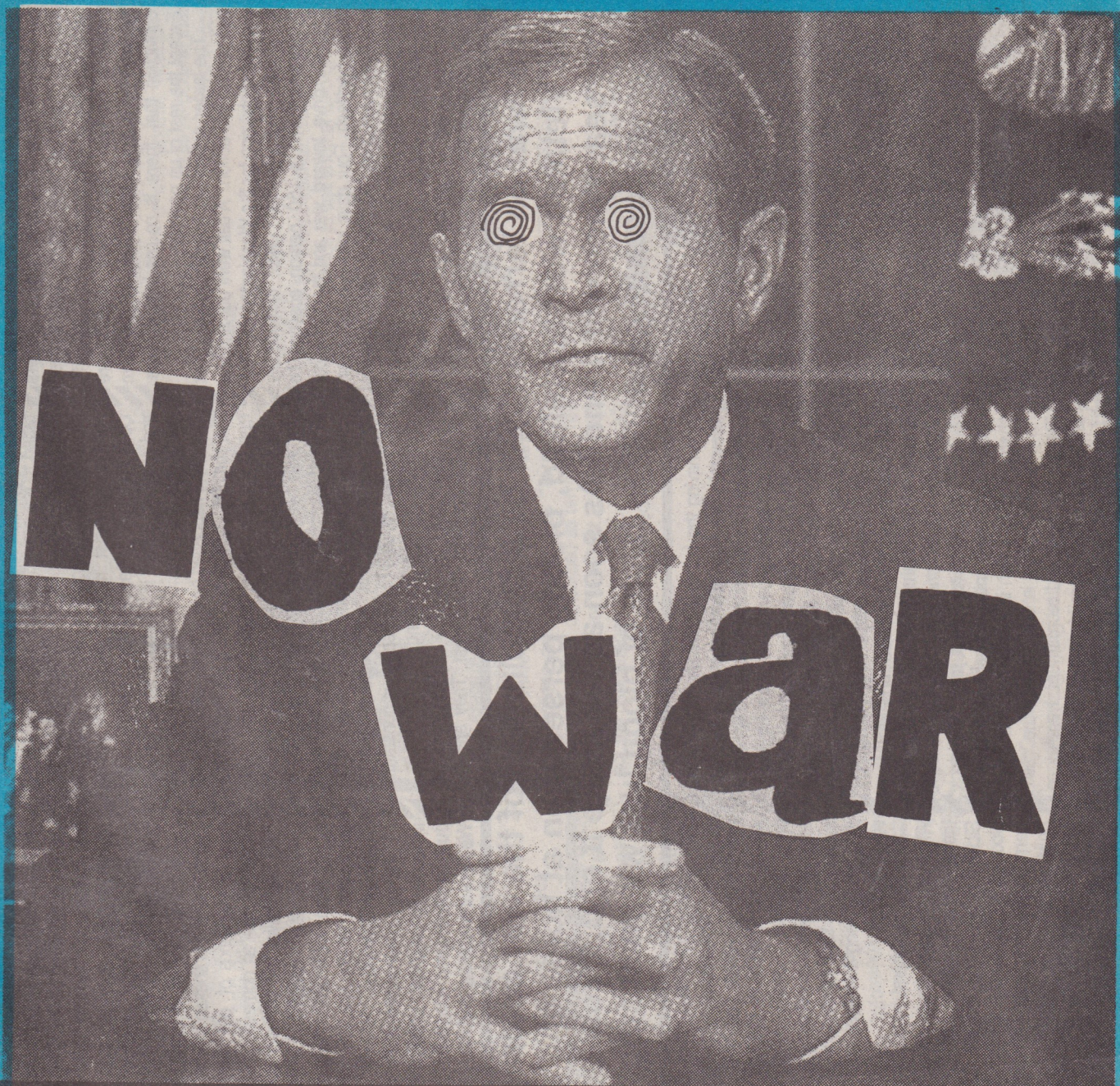


SLINGSHOT

Free



Issue #73

Fall 2001 Special Extra Edition

SLINGSHOT

Special 9-11 Issue

Voices of Opposition

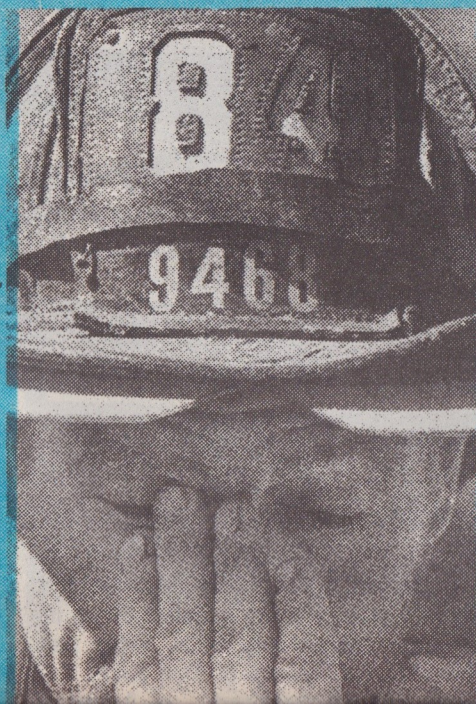
Courage, solidarity and action are crucial at this time of war and fear

We've pulled together this emergency issue to provide an opposition voice in the midst of the sea of nationalism and militarism currently gripping the US in the wake of the September 11 disaster. Opposing war, resisting racist attacks on Muslims, and refusing to surrender freedom, civil rights and privacy is crucial at this dangerous time.

Opposition to militarism does not equal indifference to the catastrophe that struck New York on September 11.

We were horrified by the massacre of thousands of regular folks. The callous waste of life, the reduction of living beings to pawns to be used and thrown away — prevention of such inhumanity inspires us to seek an anarchist society in which all life would be respected and cherished. We mourn the victims and weep for the families who have lost loved ones.

The mainstream media is busy seizing on the personal tragedy of so many to whip up a public frenzy in support of whatever policies Bush's advisors may conceive. We are told that it is our duty as Americans to give



movement back dramatically, but we don't believe the set-back will be permanent. The earth is under systematic attack — not a one day attack, but every day. Multi-national corporations continue their invasion all across the globe. The peace movement, which is stirring to oppose the ill defined, unlimited "war on terrorism" declared by Bush, must oppose not only Bush's military war, but the daily war of the capitalist system against the environment, freedom and people everywhere.

What Is To Be Done?

In a desperate situation such as this, how can we stop Bush's steamroller to war?

We have to be brave, vocal and visible. Now isn't the time to hide in activist ghettos or retreat to armchair opinions expressed only in privacy and safety.

Solidarity and community are crucial. Many, many people feel isolated, alone and scared in their opposition to the darkening skies of domestic crackdown and war. But when folks realize that there are millions here and abroad who believe as we do, fear and isolation gives

Not who but why

***Tragic attack isn't much of a
surprise in view of US history
of military aggression***

By Jason Justice

Why were we attacked? The question has mostly been ignored, but President Bush seems to believe it has to do with our commitment to freedom and democracy; an ideal, he implies, that is so hated that it is now being attacked by "evil." But that answer doesn't suffice, and the evasiveness of his answer merits scrutiny. Let's look at some of the more comprehensive reasons why someone would want to attack the United States.

Contrary to our own internal propaganda, outside of the US the rest of the world largely sees the US military and big business as an international bully. To the third world we're seen as a dictator, a rogue state imposing our will on everybody else, often directly responsible for devastating military power

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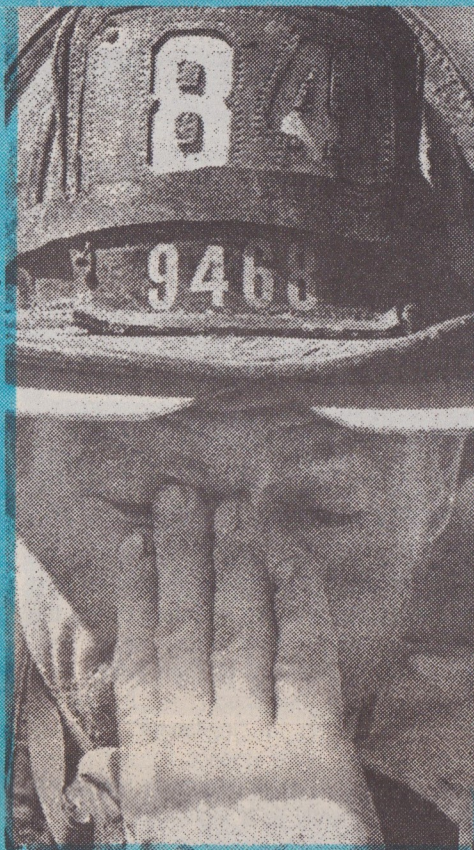
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The mainstream media is busy seizing on the personal tragedy of so many to whip up a public frenzy in support of whatever policies Bush's advisors may conceive. We are told that it is our duty as Americans to give unquestioning support to "our leader" during a time of national crisis.

But that is Bullshit! Bush is cynically taking advantage of the suffering and fear of a whole nation to rapidly advance policies which threaten freedom and increase the likelihood of further violent disasters. Bush understands that the social divisions existing on September 10 still exist now, and he is eagerly using this tragedy to advance the selfish interests of those in power who seek to rule and exploit the rest of the world's people. Military adventurism may benefit certain narrow segments of the power structure, but ultimately cannot protect us from the type of violence that struck September 11. In fact, the authors of those attacks may have hoped they would inspire a violent US response, provoking a cycle of violent attacks and counter attacks, and recruiting more suicide bombers in the process.

More violence cannot prevent violence — ultimately only justice can promote peace. "An eye for an eye leaves us all blind."



As we go to press, events are moving extremely fast. New laws to curtail privacy and freedom at home are being rushed through Congress. War against a laundry list of international targets may have started by the time you read this article.

As scary and uncertain as the new political reality following the September 11 attacks may seem, domestic opposition is needed now more than ever before. And there is no time to waste — Bush and his ilk are acting fast and decisively. We must pull together just as quickly and decisively.

Just before September 11, the movement against capitalism's exploitation of the earth and all its people — commonly known as the "anti-globalization movement" — had never been stronger.

The September 11 attacks have set this

movement back dramatically, but we don't believe the set-back will be permanent. The earth is under systematic attack — not a one day attack, but every day. Multi-national corporations continue their invasion all across the globe. The peace movement, which is stirring to oppose the ill defined, unlimited "war on terrorism" declared by Bush, must oppose not only Bush's military war, but the daily war of the capitalist system against the environment, freedom and people everywhere.

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The poll numbers indicating 90 percent of the population favoring war are the result of constant media expose to only one alternative — that offered by the Government. Its time to put some alternatives to war and repression on the agenda. The media won't do it for us — we're going to have to force these alternatives onto the agenda. Together, in a variety of ways ranging from candlelight vigils to militant disruption, the alternative messages must be made impossible to ignore.

And finally, peace and freedom loving people in the United States are in a unique position to slow or prevent the repression and violence planned by this nation's rulers. If necessary, it will be up to us to put our bodies on the line to physically prevent the war machine from operating by disrupting all aspects of the society that feeds the war machine. We're here — we're the only ones who can reach the gears and levers.

These are dangerous and terrifying times, but we can't let our fear lull us into inaction.

but why

Tragic attack isn't much of a surprise in view of US history of military aggression

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Contrary to our own internal propaganda, outside of the US the rest of the world largely sees the US military and big business as an international bully. To the third world we're seen as a dictator, a rogue state imposing our will on everybody else, often directly responsible for devastating military power and corporate dominance, with tragic effects for the poor, but immense benefits for the global masters of the economy. To the rest of the world, it is we who are the terrorists, we who are enemy of peace, we who are evil. Such views are not unfounded, and examples supporting them are ample.

Take, for instance, the US-backed genocide in East Timor by Indonesia. Plenty to be angry about here. The entire population was murdered with US arms and support. Or what about the US sanctions imposed on Iraq, responsible for over 50,000 child deaths annually, something which Madeline Albright says is "worth it." Or what about the US bombing of Libya, or the destruction of a pharmaceutical plant in the Sudan, responsible for a death toll probably higher than the attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center? Or consider Israel, the main client state of the US, backed with full support and over \$6 billion annual military aid, used in an ongoing war against Palestinians, Syria, and their neighbors. Or what about the massacre and displacement of the Kurds, made possible and endorsed by massive US military aid to Turkey. What about Colombia, Latin America's leading human rights violator receiving

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In light of all of this, it should come as no surprise that the Pentagon and World Trade Center were attacked. We see it as a terrorist attack, but more likely it was a retaliatory strike, hitting back at a country who's been bombing to hell the rest of the world for over 50 years, causing turmoil and poverty so extreme, that people are willing to die to send a message. Truly, for others to hate the United States this much, it must be much more than disdain for freedom; rather, people's backs are against the wall and they're striking back at their oppressors, us, in whatever way they can. With this in mind, the more frightening question might not be why this happened, but why this didn't happen sooner?

Continued on page 10

CRACKDOWN!

Dissent may be the first casualty of war

By Astorgirl

In the past six months we have seen the deaths of anti-capitalists in Genoa, Papua New Guinea, and Brazil. As radicals, there is one thing that is important to understand when considering the tragedy of September 11: It was the US government's hatred and fear of alternatives to capitalism (socialism) that motivated us to fund the Taliban in the first place. The operation to terrorize the Soviet Union is coming home to us twenty years later. The real danger is attacks on civil liberties and the likelihood of the government turning its

focus to dissidents within its borders. Once that happens, we are all in grave danger.

Let us consider what the United States has done historically during crisis or times of "National Emergency":

-During the Civil War:

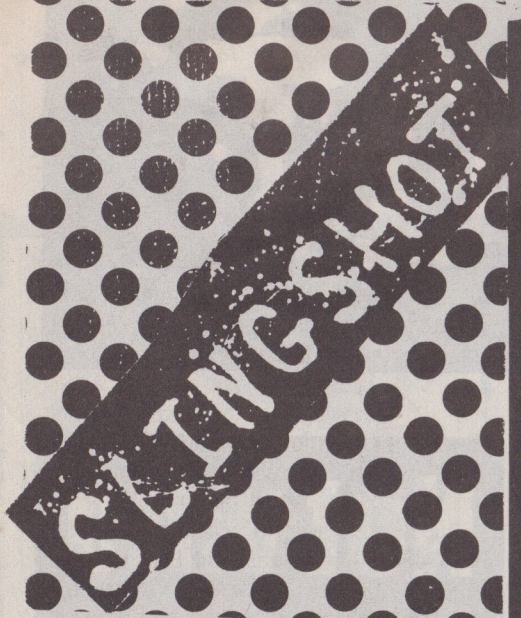
- Anti-war newspapers were banned from the mail.
- The Reverend J.R. Stewart, of Alexandria, Virginia was arrested for failing to include a customary prayer for the president of the United States in his sermon.

Continued on page 11



Patriotism n. 1) The inability to distinguish between the government and one's country; 2) A highly praiseworthy virtue characterized by the desire to dominate and kill; 3) A feeling of exultation experienced when contemplating heaps of charred "enemy" corpses; 4) The first, last and perennial refuge of scoundrels. Patriot n. A dangerous tool of the powers that be. A herd member who compensates for lack of self-respect by identifying with an abstraction. An enemy of individual freedom. A fancier of the rich, satisfying flavor of boot leather.

-The American Heretic's Dictionary



Slingshot is a quarterly, independent, radical newspaper published in the East Bay since 1988.

The tiny Slingshot collective, which publishes what you're reading, decided to put out this "emergency issue" in response to the war fever and nationalism sweeping the land.

In the matter of one week we have written and compiled the articles contained within and worked diligently (some of us with very little sleep) to supply you with this paper which is essentially an anti-war cry.

The centerfold serves as a poster which you could hang up in response to all of the flags folks are waving. We need to be visible!

We're always looking for writers, artists, photographers, editors, distributors and free-thinkers to make Slingshot better. If you somehow got the impression that we're a stable, solid institution that doesn't need help—you're wrong. We are constantly on the lookout for articles, artwork and especially photos of demos and cool billboard corrections.

Editorial decisions about Slingshot are made by the Slingshot collective. Articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of everyone in Slingshot. We welcome debate, discussion, and criticism.

Statement from the Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan

The people of Afghanistan have nothing to do with Osama and his accomplices.

On September 11, 2001 the world was stunned with the horrific terrorist attacks on the United States. RAWA stands with the rest of the world in expressing our sorrow and condemnation for this barbaric act of violence and terror. RAWA had already warned that the United States should not support the most treacherous, most criminal, most anti-democracy and anti-women Islamic fundamentalist parties. It was only a matter of time before the U.S. made their hit list. In order to gain and maintain their power, these fundamentalists will stop at nothing to attain their ideal.

It was the government of the United States who supported Pakistani dictator Gen. Zia-ul-Haq in creating thousands of religious schools

The RAWA is a political / social organization of Afghanistan women struggling for freedom, peace, democracy and womens rights in fundamentalist -blighted Afghanistan. The women live in Pakistan, travel to their homeland to give reports of the conditions, and work clandestinely to disseminate the information.

Check out RAWA.org for more info.

from which the germs of Taliban emerged. In the similar way, Osama Bin Laden has been the blue-eyed boy of CIA. But what is more painful is that American politicians have not drawn a lesson from their pro-fundamentalist policies in our country and are still supporting other fundamentalist bands or leaders. In our opinion any kind of support to the fundamentalist Taliban or Jehadies is a trampling of democratic, women's and human rights values.

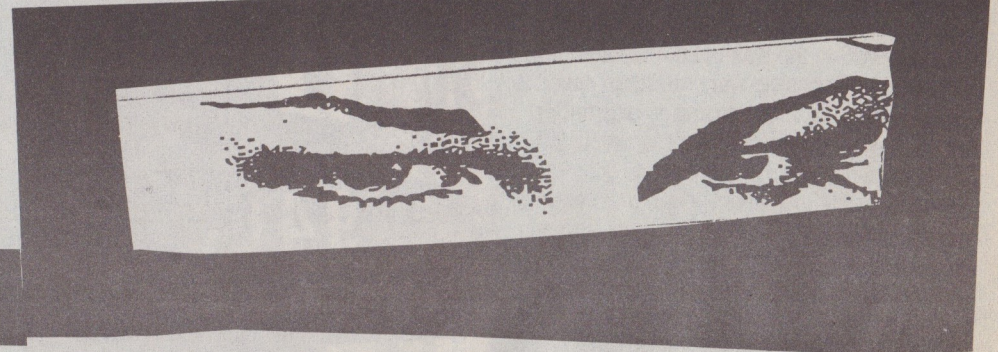
Now that the Taliban and Osama are the prime suspects by the US officials after the criminal attacks, will the US subject Afghanistan to a military attack similar to the one in 1998 and kill thousands of innocent Afghans for the crimes committed by the Taliban and Osama? Does the US think that through such attacks, with thousands of deprived, poor and innocent people of Afghanistan as its victims, will be able to wipe out the root-cause of terrorism, or will it

spread terrorism even to a larger scale?

>From our point of view a vast and indiscriminate military attack on a country that has been facing permanent disasters for more than two decades will not be a matter of pride. We don't think such an attack would be the expression of the will of the American people.

The US government and people should know that there is a vast difference between the poor and devastated people of Afghanistan and the terrorist Jehadi and Taliban criminals.

While we once again announce our solidarity and deep sorrow with the people of the US, we also believe that attacking Afghanistan and killing its most ruined and destitute people will not in any way decrease the grief of the American people. We sincerely hope that the great American people could DIFFERENTIATE between the people of Afghanistan and a handful of fundamentalist terrorists. Our hearts go out to the people of the US.



War on Terrorism: War on Freedom

By P. Wingnut

The Bush Administration has declared a wide-ranging war on "terrorism" — what does this mean?

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Also the 2002 Slingshot organizer is now available. This is quite possibly the best news in the paper! So order now so you can keep track of all those anti-war demonstrations! SEND \$5 FOR ONE, \$16 FOR FOUR, OR \$30 FOR 8. All postage is included and if you send an extra \$1 with your order and we'll throw in a one year subscription to Slingshot! What a deal.

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Volunteers interested in getting involved with Slingshot can hang out with us on December 16 at 4 p.m. at the Long Haul in Berkeley (see below).

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The Bush Administration has declared a wide-ranging war on "terrorism" — what does this mean?

Terrorism is *not* a particular ideology or a description of a particular nationality or ethnicity (although the term certainly is laden with racial implications). Thus unlike past wars, a war on terrorism is not a war against any particularly definable group of people. Such a war has no clear "victory", no geographical limits, nor any conclusion — such a war presumably will continue everywhere and anywhere *forever*. Perversely, this is seen as a *good* thing by Bush and his ilk.

At its heart, terrorism is a description used by governments and those in power for violence used by the powerless in any type of struggle. One could say that terrorism is a "tactic", but such a definition misses the way the term is used; the term "terrorist" is always used to indicate the division between those in power and those who are powerless.

The word terrorist has been applied to a lot of different people, often unjustly in an attempt to smear legitimate struggles for liberation. For instance, the African National Congress, which is now the government of South Africa, was designated as a "terrorist" group during its struggle against apartheid. Other examples are Irish Republicans, Basques in Spain, East Timorese resistance fighters, and the entire Palestinian people. Although many actions are described as "terrorism" and many groups denounced as terrorist, few of these ever plan or carry out actions similar to the September 11 attack. Historically many people have been branded "terrorist" although their activities were in no way aimed at innocent people.

Thus when a United States missile slammed into the Chinese embassy in Serbia during the brief war against that nation, killing many Chinese officer workers at their desks, that attack was not "terrorism" — it was an "accident" during a "legitimate" military action. States using violence against civilian areas describe innocent victims as "collateral damage" or merely as a legitimate tactic in war. The US nuclear attack on Hiroshima and Nagasaki killed about 200,000 people, most of them "innocent" civilians going about their daily lives. This action was not "terrorism" because it was state action that was part of a war.

It is crucial that Bush's war against terrorism is *not* a war against violence or against injustice. Bush takes no general stand against *any* violence practiced against innocent civilians.

Instead, Bush's war is only a war against a particular kind of violence — violence practiced by the powerless. Bush's war, like all wars, intends to use another kind of violence to accomplish its goals — state violence. His statements that violence may be used against states "harboring" terrorists makes clear that Bush's war will use *US state* violence against innocent civilians in other lands.

The slippery definition of terrorism and the diverse groups accused of practicing terrorism is of particular concern in the perpetual war against terrorism proposed by Bush.

Bush's war on terrorism is just the New World Order described in other terms — once

again the global capitalist class and its governments around the world intend to use limitless state violence to forever defeat anyone who would dare to fight the global domination of the capitalist order.

It is no coincidence that anarchists and the techno street rave group "Reclaim the Streets" were labeled as "terrorists" by the FBI in May. Bush's war on terrorism, with its domestic security crackdown and increased surveillance against anti-government groups as well as its foreign military aspect, aims to crush any action perceived as threatening carried out by any non-ruling or non-governmental formation.

Bush's ultimate aim is a world in which the powerful exercise complete domination, unquestioned and unopposed.

As an anarchist, I could not be more horrified at the attack on the World Trade Center. I've shed many tears over the senseless taking of so many lives of people I don't even know. I suspect many radicals share this feeling.

But the horror of the September 11 attacks must not cause us to lose sight of the horrendous systematic violence killing innocent people across the globe on a daily basis. The global capitalist system and the injustice and environmental destruction it causes remains the greatest impediment to human happiness and freedom.

Destroying this system requires vigorous struggle by millions of people across the globe against the forces represented by Bush. These forces of domination and violence intend to shamelessly use the deaths of thousands of innocent people to justify a perpetual global

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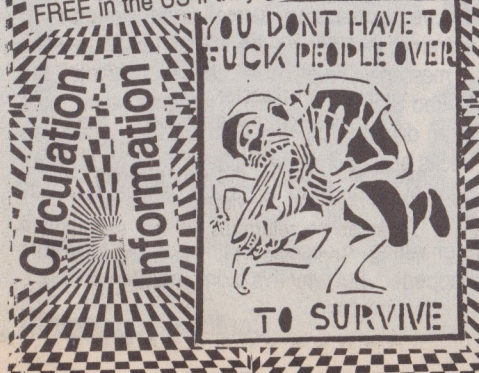
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The word terrorist has been applied to a lot of different people, often unjustly in an attempt to smear legitimate struggles for liberation. For instance, the African National Congress, which is now the government of South Africa, was designated as a "terrorist" group during its struggle against apartheid. Other examples are Irish Republicans, Basques in Spain, East Timorese resistance fighters, and the entire Palestinian people. Although many actions are described as "terrorism" and many groups denounced as terrorist, few of these ever plan or carry out actions similar to the September 11 attack. Historically many people have been branded "terrorist" although their activities were in no way aimed at innocent people.

Governments fearful of change label resistance groups as "terrorist" in order to justify state violence against these groups. Certainly even our "founding fathers" — rag tag colonists organized as the Minutemen to resist British Rule during the US Revolutionary War — would have been described as terrorists by the British. What was the Boston Tea Party if not a "terrorist act?"

It is frequently pointed out that one person's terrorist is another person's freedom fighter.

Crucially, violence carried out by government is not usually considered "terrorism", especially if the government carrying out the violence is very powerful. The very meaning of "government" is an organization that has a social monopoly on the "legitimate" use of force — of violence.

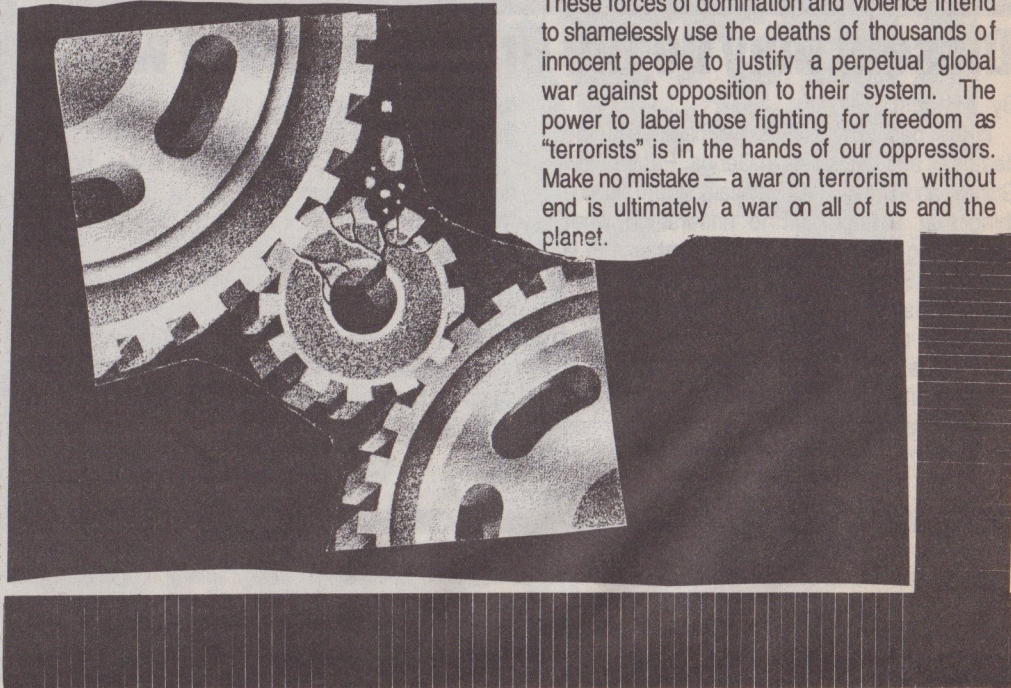
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Destroying this system requires vigorous struggle by millions of people across the globe against the forces represented by Bush. These forces of domination and violence intend to shamelessly use the deaths of thousands of innocent people to justify a perpetual global war against opposition to their system. The power to label those fighting for freedom as "terrorists" is in the hands of our oppressors. Make no mistake — a war on terrorism without end is ultimately a war on all of us and the planet.

False villains — Systemic causes

*"Islam in Arabic means submitting to Allah the one and only god. *Muhammad is the prophet of Allah. *Mecca is the Holy City. *In the beginning Islam provided a suffering Arab community divided by intertribal wars with power, unity, and triumph. *Mosques are the "churches" of Muslims. *The Five Pillars (key duties) of Islam: ...Shahada: A profession of faith recognizing that Allah is the only god and Muhammad is his prophet. Salat: Praying five times a day at dawn, midday, when the sun begins its descent, sunset, and when night falls. This is a quick exercise in intense meditation. Fasting: During the month of Ramadan from sunrise to sunset. Giving Alms A Pilgrimage to Mecca.*

(The Five Pillars say nothing of terrorizing other people.)

Until the suicide bombing on September 11 I had never given very much thought to the Islamic religion because I come from the viewpoint that organized religion is an oppressive and controlling force that allies itself with government. As the Middle East continues to be demonized by our government I find it necessary to educate ourselves and our communities on the matter so that the demonstrations of ignorance through acts of violence, unnecessary sideways glances, threatening phone calls, ugly nationalism, and ironically enough, a rejuvenated love for the christian god can be thought of more logically and come to an end. Bush may have criticized intolerance but it still exists and needs to be addressed.

If David Koresh had been referred to as a "christian terrorist" the entire country would have been up in arms protesting the use of the two words together. It is just as ridiculous to use the term "islamic terrorist" that I continue

first jet that crashed into the World Trade Center was from Egypt, a country that spends only 4% of the budget on health care. Poverty causes anger and rebellion and as we impose policies on the international community that pressure them to privatize their resources; their government in turn cuts further into public spending, which results in higher unemployment rates and increased poverty. There are very understandable motivations for attacks on the United States and we need

"The Middle East grew more restive when the days of employment and comparative security under socialism gave way to infitah, or an opening of countries to the free market and Western capitalism; when poverty and inflation increased; when bread riots erupted; when national pride was hurt and humiliated; when Palestinians were thrown out of their lands and homes; and when the superpower, America, vetoed many United Nations resolutions granting Palestinians their

of the freedom and opportunity of the majority of the world's population. Who is the real terrorist in this story?

If there is any doubt consider that America brought the Taliban to power, promoted Saddam Hussein for a war against Iran, allied itself with the most reactionary regimes in the mideast and sponsored the ongoing military occupation of Palestine by Israel. Not enough? How about Israel's invasion on Lebanon in 1982 where 17,000 civilians died? Or maybe the half million children that have died because of our sanctions on Iraq. You think 5,000 is a big number? Consider the terrorists that we armed and paid in the 1980's massacre of more than 30,000 Nicaraguan civilians. Vietnam?

With Bush's "Operation Infinite Freedom" where he has threatened to "stop, eliminate, and destroy" terrorism where it grows (sort of like spraying your lawn for weeds, right?) we are embarking on a war that really will be infinite. How long will it take to "weed out" all of the terrorists? Will the impossible demands on the people from Afghanistan result in bombing? How many bombs will we drop before the people of this country protest against the ridiculous policy that has no attainable outcome? How many must die at our expense and what civil liberties will we lose in the meantime?

Until we change our brutal, militaristic, foreign policy and follow rules of international law there will be terrorists. The weapons of mass destruction the United States has in themselves are a form of terrorism on the rest of the globe; it is intimidation, and until we put down our arms we are inviting opposition. There will continue to be idealistic and fundamentalist attacks on capitalism and



Bin Laden: A Brief History

Osama bin Laden is a multi-millionaire of Saudi origin who sponsored and led Arabs fighting in Afghanistan against the USSR in the 1980's. Ronald Reagan who supported "the valiant freedom fighters", recruited bin Laden and other Muslim rebels to overthrow the Soviet backed secular government in Kabul. The covert U.S. funding was funneled largely through Pakistan's maverick Inter-Services Intelligence. Millions of dollars in money and arms were provided to the mujahideen rebels to fight the Soviet occupation. bin Laden made it clear that both the U.S. and Russia were considered enemies.

In the mid-1980's Osama bin Laden and the Palestinian Muslim Brotherhood leader Abdallah Azzam co-founded the Maktab alKhidamat, an organization to help supply the Afghan resistance in Peshawar with fighters and money. The MAK enlisted, sheltered and transported thousands of people from over 50 countries to fight the Soviets. Over 10,000 Arabs received training in these paramilitary camps in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

In the late 80's Bin Laden and Azzam formed a new organization, al-Qua'ida, to focus on extending his campaign world wide. After the car bombing death of Azzam in 1989, the MAK split, with the extremist faction joining al-Qa'ida.

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* If David Koresh had been referred to as a "christian terrorist" the entire country would have been up in arms protesting the use of the two words together. It is just as ridiculous to use the term "islamic terrorist" that I continue to hear repeated not only by the media but also by individuals within earshot.

* Bin Laden is not the representative for the entire Muslim community (which is 1/6 of the world's population). In fact, he is a representative of one small fundamentalist group that was trained and funded by the United States (we gave them \$43 million dollars just 4 months ago to destroy poppies-as part of the "war on drugs").

* Believing that all followers of Islam are terrorists is comparable to believing that all christians are devout followers of Jerry Fallwell. It is this ignorance that is allowing for people in this country to believe that a military retaliation is necessary, it is ignorance that is fueling the recent hate crimes in our communities, and it is ignorance that allows Bush to further an arms race that is ineffective and costly. The real danger is not individual spiritual beliefs or religions but fundamentalists of any religion who use their religion to justify actions that are not

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After Afghanistan, bin Ladin returned to Saudi Arabia and continued to support opposition movements in that country and Yemen. He began to oppose the Saudi leadership when they rejected his advice to rely on native fighters and turned the country's defenses over to the U.S. military. Bin Laden organized a local movement to force U.S. troops out of the country. He relocated to the Sudan in 1991 and was stripped of his Saudi citizenship in 1994 after Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Yemen accused him of supporting subversive groups. Eventually, in 1996, Sudan expelled bin Laden under pressure from the U.S. and Saudi Arabia threatening UN sanctions for Sudan's alleged complicity in the attempted assassination of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in 1995.

After returning to Afghanistan, bin Laden found many willing Muslim recruits who were angered by the massive civilian "collateral damage" caused by the Gulf War. In 1996, bin Laden publicly issued his "Declaration of War" against the United States. Since then, his anti-U.S. rhetoric has escalated to the point of calling for worldwide attacks on Americans and allies, including civilians.

to think critically about our foreign policy.

Aside from stealing bread off the tables of the poor consider Reagan's 1983 bombing of a Lebanese village, Bush's "smart bomb" of civilians seeking shelter in Baghdad, or Clinton's 1999 "mistakenly" dropped missiles on a pharmaceutical company in Sudan. Abbas Hamdani of the Mediterranean Quarterly Fall

legitimate right to return to their homes and achieve their self-determination, while doling out billions of dollars every year to Israel and strengthening its occupation of Palestinian lands."

It should be no surprise that there are people in the world that despise us; and not because "we are the brightest beacon for

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Until we change our brutal, militaristic, foreign policy and follow rules of international law there will be terrorists. The weapons of mass destruction the United States has in themselves are a form of terrorism on the rest of the globe; it is intimidation, and until we put down our arms we are inviting opposition. There will continue to be idealistic and fundamentalist attacks on capitalism and the West and it is up to progressive people in the west to use this opportunity to educate our own communities about capitalism and it's effects on the rest of the world.

Capitalism is the real terrorist in this world because it rewards greed and motivates the greedy to get what they want by any means necessary. When we get sick or go to war it benefits our economy. We need a new system based on humane principles, mutual aid, and strengthening of local infrastructures. The time is now, there are millions more lives at stake and things are only going to get worse as the nation becomes more hysterical and war hungry.

Call any of these Islamic organizations in San Francisco to show support and counteract all of the ignorant hateful messages they are receiving:

Islamic Bulletin/Masjid Al Noor
415-552-8831 Islamic Society of SF/Masjid
Darussalam 415-863-7997 SF Muslim
Community Center 415-532-8887

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* Community Center 415-563-9397
* The Mosque and Islamic Center of SF
* 415-282-9039

Refuse the spiral of violence

By PB Floyd

As the September 11 attacks so clearly illustrated, mass violence is ugly. Horrific. Every day the US press now carries page after page of photographs of those killed, with short biographies of the lives so brutally snuffed out. With over 6,000 killed, it will take years to eulogize them all. If you stop to read these biographies, its hard not to cry. The newlywed couple, now separated forever. The fireman with four children at home. The environmental lawyer who loved to camp in the redwoods.

We've lived in the United States never expecting such slaughter on our own soil. That happens somewhere else, and we're safe here at home. The emotional potency of our loss of innocence and security is hard to assimilate.

The reaction so far has been anger and rage — the impulse to fight back against those who robbed us of our safety. This has been encouraged by the government and the media, both pushing a military response.

After being touched by the ugliness of violence, the urge for more violence is curious. The history of most every other country on Earth includes the type of violence seen on September 11. The ugliness, the brutality and the fear are no strangers to the rest of the world. The United States, generally spared such violence, is the exception.

Many other nations around the world have known such violence *at the hands of the United States Government*. While we mourn 6,000 people killed September 11, imagine how much greater must have been the sorrow at the 200,000 Iraqis killed during the Gulf War. Or the over 1,000,000 children who have died in Iraq since that war as a result of US sanctions which prevented repair of sanitation, water and health infrastructure. Those victims were generally as "innocent" as those killed at the World Trade Center — just people trying to live their lives who got in the way of violence.

The victims of US military or CIA adventures form a shameful pile a mile high: 3 million killed in Vietnam, thousands in Nicaragua and El Salvador, how many in Columbia, Panama, Chile, Granada, Sudan, where else? The CIA has funded and encouraged conflict around the globe. Osama bin Laden, now the chief suspect in the September 11 attacks, was amongst the CIA funded rebels encouraged to reduce Afghanistan to rubble in a decade of war against a Soviet invasion. That war alone killed tens of thousands, forcing millions to flee.

The United States government has acted for decades as if violence had no consequences. The violence has always been used against "other people" living "elsewhere" — US soil was safe. That the US government violence may have created millions of enemies across the globe could be conveniently ignored, because it was believed that they couldn't strike at US interests. At worst, US citizens traveling abroad might be in danger.

On September 11, the United States' isolation from the rest of the world lifted. The new reality is that US violence employed abroad can and has come back to US soil.

The Bush administration's proposed response to the September 11 outrage is a war against all terrorists and all states that "harbor" them. The proposed war is broad, perhaps against many governments and many people across the globe, and perhaps permanent. It almost appears Bush doesn't care *who* the war is against, just so long as the military can punish *someone* for the September 11 disaster.

More violence, more suffering, more mourning and crying for loved ones butchered by the machines of war — this cannot bring back any of the September 11 victims. This won't make the US safer or return us to the security we felt before September 11. Such violence makes us less safe by increasing violence and hate everywhere.

ANTI-WAR EFFORT NEEDS YOU

By Jason Justice

In the aftermath of the recent attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center, I think we all agree that there should be some sort of response to the situation. Exactly how we should respond, however, is the pivotal decision in need of further debate. The mainstream media and US military are narrowly focusing on a war reaction to the attacks, meanwhile leaving diplomatic options largely outside of the perimeter of discussion on the issue. It is therefore imperative that we take it upon ourselves to react thoughtfully and explore the alternatives. Doing so may not only encourage the wisest decision in responding to these attacks, but may also make us better for it in the long run.

Before we can address how best to respond to the attacks, we must first discuss how best not to respond and why. The role of the US media has been to provide one option: war. But that is not our only option, and, in fact, it's a very bad one. This is not going to be an ordinary war; the consequences here are enormous. President Bush has declared our response not to be a series of quick air strikes, but a long, ongoing sustained attack; allowing himself an open-ended justification for universal massive military violence and funding (with slashed domestic social spending and increased domestic repression) for years to come. In a recent interview Noam Chomsky, fears "we are considering the possibility of a war that may destroy much of human society", causing mass destruction of inner civilian cities, and killing "unknown numbers of people who have not the remotest connection to terrorism," resulting in the death of "possibly millions" (Radio B92, Belgrade). If history serves as a lesson, it should be clear that a US military retaliation will do harm mainly to innocent people. Seldom do the despots themselves face the consequences of US military attacks. Iraq illustrates a good

example; Saddam Hussein remains healthy and in power, yet the women, men and children of the country suffer and die horribly due to US bombings and relentless sanctions. This time around we're talking about a much more severe attack. The press has discussed employing the draft and worse, using nuclear weapons.

There is nothing lending support to the credence that a US military retaliation will result in greater national safety or put an end to terrorism. On the contrary, we'll be fueling the fire of hatred and war worldwide, increasing popular opposition to the United States. Terrorism may loom larger than ever before, with a backlash of widespread support for militant fundamentalism, endangering the world and our own country as well. Our current mode of military retaliation will only make things far worse. If we actually want to put an end to this sort of violence and terrorism we need to respond in a way that will not provoke further terrorism, by our own government or any others.

Ideally, we should respond to the attack on America by following the law and utilizing our pre-existing international judicial system. We have the World Court, the United Nations, the Security Council and international laws designed to solve these sorts of problems, diplomatically. Terrorists and violators of international law can be brought to justice without killing millions of other innocent people in the process. But the US ignores these laws, they always do. Diplomacy is a possibility but it is never explored. And since the US will not abide by international laws or even acknowledge the possibility of an alternative to a military response, the ideal, diplomatic and legal method of responding to the attacks is unfortunately not presently an option.

Considering the horrible long term consequences of a US military retaliation, both at home & abroad, and the fact that the US is

ignoring the appropriate legal and diplomatic options available, our response to the attack on America needs to be a fundamentally different one. I believe our primary concern at this point should be to stop the war. Congresswoman Barbara Lee of Oakland was the only congressperson to oppose the war before the House of Representatives. "Women, children and other non-combatants," she said, "will be caught in the crossfire" of our war (09.14.01). She is a brave example of the kind of stance the rest of us should be taking in response to the current situation. In fact the only sane approach to the US military response is to do everything we can to stop the war. No other options make sense at this point. If we ever want to explore diplomatic options, or encourage a future of relative peace instead of transnational violence, our first response needs to be to stop the war.

Fortunately, in what may be a record-breaking response, anti-war activists have already begun mobilizing against the war (see list elsewhere). Several protests have sprung up across the country and around the San Francisco Bay Area. Sunday, September 16, there was a rally with over 2,000 people opposing the war and racial hostility in San Francisco. Other protests have followed, resulting in a nation-wide series of anti-war/anti-racism protests and rallies on University campuses across the country. On September 20, about 3,000 people marched through the streets of Berkeley alone. Other demonstrations have happened and are being planned. The Berkeley fire department has ordered all of their vehicles to remove any American flags because it's encouraging pro-war hysteria, and the Dalai Lama has stepped forward against the war as well. The scheduled September 29 protests against the IMF/World Bank meeting in Washington DC were transformed into an anti-war/anti-racism

protest instead.

Our anti-war activity needs to increase. Everything possible should be done to halt the war, starting with the basics: articles, phone calls and petitions, as well as more overt protests and dissident anti-war resistance and non-violent action. The immense organization and momentum fueling the growing anti-globalization protests should continue being harnessed to rally against the new US war, and further build a movement based on solidarity, peace and democracy. Community, student and labor organizing should increase. The anti-war protests we've already seen should serve as examples and inspiration for the immediate response we should be taking to the attack on America and the current US military retaliation.

Both the pro-war campaign of the US corporate press and military, and the quick anti-war response by concerned people and organizations, may affect the growing popular support for social justice and activist movements. The pro-war media have been working overtime, and everything is being done to craft public consent to support war retaliation. But their efforts may backfire; their propaganda is becoming absurd; President Bush is looking for unilateral unlimited military power. This whole affair has forced people to pay attention to the activities of the US corporate military and US foreign policy. In spite of the immense pro-war state propaganda campaign, people are questioning the role of the US military, their motives and actions. The result of all of this may well be a stronger, larger & more diverse movement of people working for social justice and change. The anti-war response is a first step toward ending international terrorism, both on our own soil as well as abroad, and the rest of the world depends on us.

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Before we can address how best to respond to the attacks, we must first discuss how best not to respond and why. The role of the US media has been to provide one option: war. But that is not our only option, and, in fact, it's a very bad one. This is not going to be an ordinary war; the consequences here are enormous. President Bush has declared our response not to be a series of quick air strikes, but a long, ongoing sustained attack; allowing himself an open-ended justification for universal massive military violence and funding (with slashed domestic social spending and increased domestic repression) for years to come. In a recent interview Noam Chomsky, fears "we are considering the possibility of a war that may destroy much of human society", causing mass destruction of inner civilian cities, and killing "unknown numbers of people who have not the remotest connection to terrorism," resulting in the death of "possibly millions" (Radio B92, Belgrade). If history serves as a lesson, it should be clear that a US military retaliation will do harm mainly to innocent people. Seldom do the despots themselves face the consequences of US military attacks. Iraq illustrates a good

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RACIST RHETORIC FUELS WAR TALK

Tim Wise, AlterNet (with intrusive Slingshot editing)

Well, it looks as if the good people of the rural U.S. should be breathing a sigh of relief right about now. What with the President and most Americans itching to bomb any place where terrorists might be hiding one can only imagine the kind of wrath that would have been brought down upon the heads of folks in Iowa or Nebraska had the guilty parties been white boys with crew-cuts, like Tim McVeigh. All this talk of "carpet bomb 'em back into the stone age," would have to have been replaced with "bomb 'em back to the 'Dust Bowl'".

But the fact is, we all know that such a scenario would never have transpired, and not because white boys aren't capable of inflicting mass death. They certainly are. McVeigh



MEANS TALKING TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

by PB

The strangest thing about the days immediately following the September 11 attack was a strange sense of *unity* and *community* that I felt, even as the nationalism and war fever also began to rage.

I talked to my 80 year old neighbor and held her hand. I talked to another neighbor, a blue collar white tough guy, and he cried openly

out the worst in people (racist attacks, unquestioning support for Bush, etc.) but something about this crisis also brought out something good.

It seems to me that the essence of the anarchist society we seek to build would be a spirit of community and spontaneous solidarity and caring from strangers such as some of us experienced right after the attack. We need

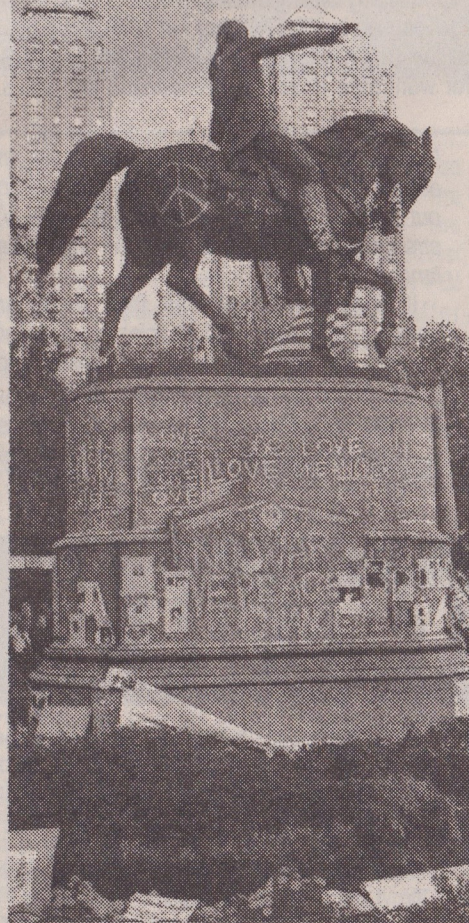
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But the fact is, we all know that such a scenario would never have transpired, and not because white boys aren't capable of inflicting mass death. They certainly are. McVeigh proved that, if Hitler, Stalin, Andrew Jackson, Lyndon Johnson and Dick Nixon weren't sufficient to make the case. But because the folks who are so quick to collectivize the responsibility and the payback when the perps are dark-skinned or "foreign," are just as quick not to do so when white boys are the ones committing mass murder or engaging in terrorist activities.

Bottom line: people who look different, speak a different language or practice a different religion are a lot easier to view as the "other", the enemy, somehow cutoff from the common humanity of which we consider ourselves a part. And so we speak now of killing Arabs indiscriminately, of not differentiating between the guilty and the innocent (ironically, the precise mentality of whomever carried out last week's attacks). But we would have said none of these things had the perpetrators been internal extremists. We would never have heard columnists calling for profiling of white men, the way that reactionary crank Ann Coulter, called for the same against Arabs and Muslims this week. Actually, she also opined that it should be the role of the United States to



invade "their" countries, kill "their" leaders, and "convert them to Christianity." If these were the words of an Imam, calling for the forced conversion of Southern Baptists to Islam, we would call them the fanatical ramblings of a jihad-happy madman. But when Coulter says it she finds mass support for her nuttiness.

And so what does that leave us with? The fact is, I don't know. And neither do you. And why can't we just say that, admit our frailties and uncertainties and ignorance. That we demand quick and easy answers is indicative of



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by PB

The strangest thing about the days immediately following the September 11 attack was a strange sense of *unity* and *community* that I felt, even as the nationalism and war fever also began to rage.

I talked to my 80 year old neighbor and held her hand. I talked to another neighbor, a blue collar white tough guy, and he cried openly before me. I said hi to strangers on the street and had substantive conversations with people at the grocery store. A former political rival came up and spontaneously gave me a hug. And these weren't isolated incidents. According to radio reports, normally tough New York City felt like a small town as strangers comforted and hugged strangers on the subway. This was a feeling of community, of solidarity, of society that most of us have never experienced before.

In many ways, recent events have brought

out the worst in people (racist attacks, unquestioning support for Bush, etc.) but something about this crisis also brought out something good.

It seems to me that the essence of the anarchist society we seek to build would be a spirit of community and spontaneous solidarity and caring from strangers such as some of us experienced right after the attack. We need to remember what that felt like and realize how good it felt. In a future society, these feelings of caring — wanting to take care of other people just because they are other people — wouldn't rise out of the nationalist impulse "we're all Americans; we're all in this together."

Such sentiment would arise out of the realization that *we're all human beings*. We're all in this together here on this planet, and life will be much better if we can love each other and take care of people when they need help.

our cultural attachment to instant gratification.

No wonder so much of the world looks at America with contempt and at Americans as spoiled children. First, we train terrorists the world over, including bin Laden, because we had to "get the commies" at all costs, even if it meant supporting dictators and murderers. Then we support corrupt and brutal regimes that trample the rights of their citizens.

This is not to say that any of these things, no matter how irresponsible or even criminal warrant an act the likes of what we saw

September 11th. But there is something to be said for understanding why no one likes you. This is no game. There is no "winner" despite the blustery rhetoric of our frat-boy-in-chief. And unless we begin to fundamentally alter the way we as a nation operate around the world, we are in for many years of violence, empty platitudes and body bags. And if that happens, it won't merely be the fault of those who attack us from outside, but also the fault of those who are the enemies of justice inside the American empire. There will be more than enough blame to go around.

RESPECT THE BELIEFS OF OTHERS

By BC BikePunk

I was in Lebanon, TN at the tail-end of a bike trip through the American Heartland when I heard news of the terrorist attacks. Predictably, the local Bible Belt response was applause for God and country. The line between church, state, and business grew blurry as towns staged prayer rallies on courthouse steps and churches held emergency services. Car dealerships sponsored the printing of full page "God Bless America" flags in local newspapers (complete with instructions on how to mount in car windows), and banks took out full page ads picturing the middle section of dollar bills with In God We Trust highlighted.

As a Berkeley-based anarchist, I was not prepared for this religious outpouring. Neither was I prepared for the content of the local sermons the following Sunday. I was expecting fire-and-brimstone content along the lines of evangelist Jerry Falwell's widely publicized remarks blaming the attacks on American "sinners", including homos, liberals, and abortion advocates. Instead, most of the 20-odd sermons highlighted in a 2-page spread in the front section of the *Nashville Tennessean* denounced Falwell's comments, advocating racial tolerance and caution in military retaliation.

In contrast to the relatively humble and practical Bible Belt response, President Bush in his address at the Washington Cathedral used Christian language to justify continued arrogance and domination over the rest of the world. "We will rid the world of evil," he said, practically painting the US as God's valiant right-hand angel.

To anarchists and other radical activists sequestered in secular ghettos, Bible Belt preaching may seem nothing more than an

emotional band-aid, and Bush's symbolism could be dismissed as more humorous nonsense from a national idiot. But, like it or not, people all over the country are dealing with this attack through prayer, and Bush's version of Christianity is the same underlying force that



justifies capitalist world domination. Anarchists cannot afford to ignore either form of Christian rhetoric. Dismissal severely limits our ability to discuss the events with anybody outside the radical ghetto. A relevant anarchist movement hinges on our ability to connect with people where they are mentally, which at this point is in the church. Revolutionary activists must develop a respectful response to this religious outpouring that relates the love-your-neighbor

doctrine to anarchist values of mutual aid, while denouncing Bush's crusader, "Onward Christian Soldier" -inspired dogma. Instead of shying away from churches, secular activists can use the shared values to help build a broad-based anti-war movement.

The values of loving your neighbor, turning the other cheek, and loving all of (god's) creation prompt an examination of the root cause of the attacks: not hatred of freedom and democracy, as Bush would have us believe, but hatred of US agenda of total world economic control. Support for anti-American terrorism comes not simply from a mere distaste for 'Western Civilization and cultural values' but from feelings of powerlessness in the face of our continued acts of aggression against Muslim states and people. "There are many people in the Muslim world who are not extremists -- business people, professionals -- who feel the United States is a hegemon, politically and economically," said John Esposito, Director of the Center for Muslim-Christian Understanding at Georgetown University. "This creates conditions for radicalism." Bush's crusader mentality falls directly into the extremist-laid trap of a holy war.

Ironically, some US and Canadian Muslim groups are advising their members to "turn the other cheek" in the face of violence in an effort to prevent intensified hate crimes.

Religion and spirituality are extremely complex forces, both for dealing with personal crisis response and as motivation for larger acts. Although polls continue to indicate majority support for military action, perhaps the fact that Bible Belt sermons advocated caution in retaliation indicates that prospects for a mass anti-war movement are not altogether dim.

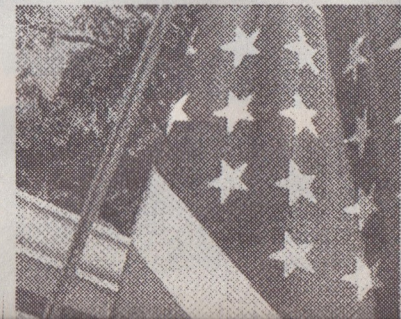
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DISPLAY OF FLAG MAY NOT MEAN WHAT YOU THINK

Part of moving beyond isolation and fear and towards activism to oppose the coming war involves talking to our neighbors and hearing what they think, rather than making assumptions that "the mainstream" all favors war. The media is telling one story, but I'm beginning to think when you *actually talk to people* a lot of people aren't being reflected in the polls and man-on-the-street interviews.

Walking around, even in Berkeley, one sees the American flag flying on numerous houses — more than I've ever seen before. Far more than on the 4th of July. And according to reports, the flag is up even more in the rest of the Country. Flags are sold out in stores across the Country. Even my normally left/liberal parents have hung out a flag.

Does this mean that all of these people are unquestioning Bush supporters or supporters



PLANING FOR REVOLUTION

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PLANING FOR REVOLUTION REQUIRES COMMUNICATION

By Pirate Prentice

There's no doubt about it folks, we are in hard times. This country is on the verge of waging a bloody interminable war. Jingoistic nationalism is on the rise. Our civil liberties are already being restricted. In addition, there is good chance that some of us may be looking out from the razor wire before very long. The only bright side of this is that we no longer have to preach quite so hard about the evils of corporate capitalism. The State will soon be graphically illustrating these evils more efficiently than we ever could.

People are not stupid. They will become either increasingly radicalized or increasingly nationalistic. We can discourage the nationalistic option by encouraging participation in any of the multitudinous anti-war, anti-racist, civil liberties, pro-justice groups in which they feel most comfortable. As this crisis continues, all these different groups will be forced to draw the same conclusions regarding Capitalism that we reached a long time ago. The remainder of this article consists of a series of tentative methods to facilitate self-organization in our communities.

Work within your own Community

Other groups must organize themselves. You are not going to be very effective if you are a white middle class adult, trying to affiliate yourself with young people of color in

direct and explicit, while not endorsing a particular organization or cause. Excellent examples are the "Hate Free Zone" flyers made by Global Exchange, or the "War is Not the Answer" Poster by The Middle Eastern Children's Alliance. Better yet, create your own. This will act as a counter-display to all of those frightening American flags that people are waving. It is also a display of both our solidarity and our diversity.

Avoid Rhetoric

Nothing frightens and alienates people more than someone spewing a bunch of



attitudes. We live in a society that has fostered those attitudes in us since birth. The best we can do is be aware of them and minimize them. Rhetoric only discourages individual participation in the group's discussion. It deflects us from our immediate crucial goals.

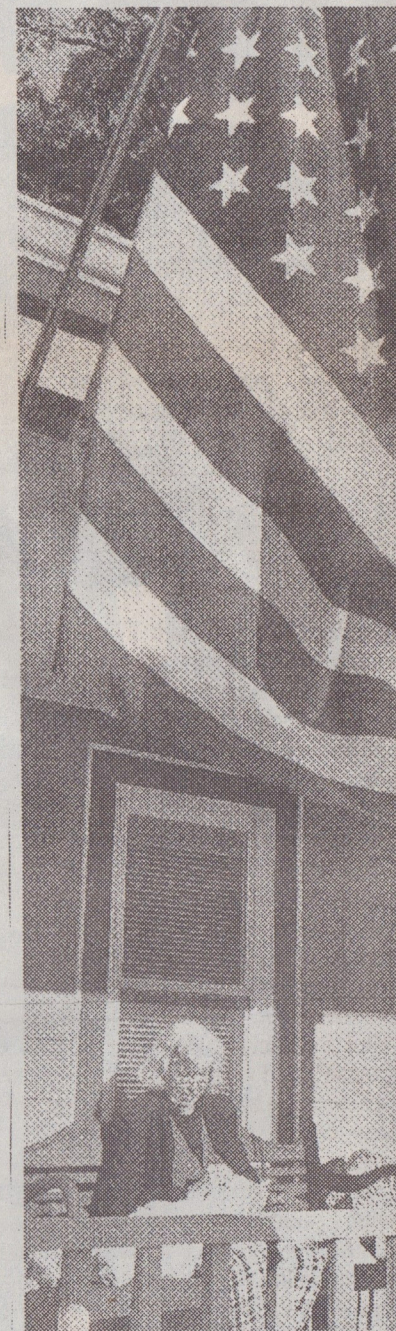
Rhetoric also makes it incredibly easy for police agents to infiltrate our movements. The cops can mimic our jargon with few problems. It is much more difficult for them to imitate the way we actually think, feel and relate.

Discover Who Our Allies Are

These groups can range from the Animal Liberation Front to the American Friends Service Committee, from the Pagan Cluster to Jews for Economic Justice to a variety of Christian social justice organizations. Go to a variety of meetings and see if you can coordinate any activities. Alternatively, you could form a separate affinity group, dedicated to a specific action from like-minded people in these different organizations.

Be aware of the existence of these different groups although you might not want to participate. If you know of their existence, you can recommend them to your friends and neighbors.

Likewise, whenever you attend a mass demonstration, go there with the primary goal of connecting with people you don't normally hang with. These folks might make you aware



of war? We must not assume this. I've been talking to people flying the flag, and at least around here, average people are really worried

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Work within your own Community

Other groups must organize themselves. You are not going to be very effective if you are a white middle class adult, trying to affiliate yourself with young people of color in Oakland.

Instead, start talking to folks in your own neighborhood. You might be amazed how radicalized most people already are and what bullshit president-select Bush is flinging around when he brags about the unanimous American support for his pro-war and repressive anti-terrorist policies.

Discover what groups your neighbors are already participating in and work out ways of coordinating the efforts of their groups and yours. Suggest new groups that match their inclinations and existing political beliefs.

Encourage local homes and businesses to display flyers and/or posters that are both

direct and explicit, while not endorsing a particular organization or cause. Excellent examples are the "Hate Free Zone" flyers made by Global Exchange, or the "War is Not the Answer" Poster by The Middle Eastern Children's Alliance. Better yet, create your own. This will act as a counter-display to all of those frightening American flags that people are waving. It is also a display of both our solidarity and our diversity.

Avoid Rhetoric

Nothing frightens and alienates people more than someone spewing a bunch of



Marxist-Leninist bible-babble or politically correct bullshit at them. You will never communicate with people unless you talk to them about concrete immediate issues, while avoiding any diatribes.

Also, avoid the rhetoric and p.c. criticism within our own groups. We all have some racist, sexist, homophobic, and classist

attitudes. We live in a society that has fostered those attitudes in us since birth. The best we can do is be aware of them and minimize them. Rhetoric only discourages individual participation in the group's discussion. It deflects us from our immediate crucial goals.

Rhetoric also makes it incredibly easy for police agents to infiltrate our movements. The cops can mimic our jargon with few problems. It is much more difficult for them to imitate the way we actually think, feel and relate.

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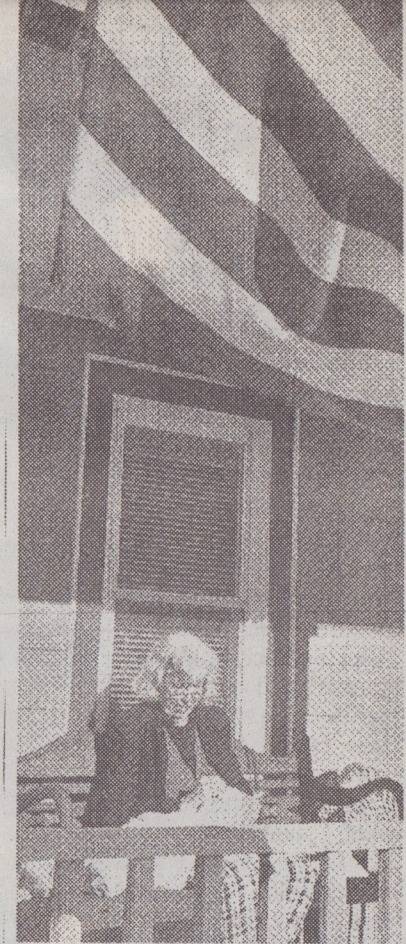
Be aware of the existence of these different groups although you might not want to participate. If you know of their existence, you can recommend them to your friends and neighbors.

Likewise, whenever you attend a mass demonstration, go there with the primary goal of connecting with people you don't normally hang with. These folks might make you aware of further actions. On the other hand, you may want to connect with them at a future time.

Critically Examine All of the Above Statements

All of these suggestions are based solely on my personal experiences. I do not pretend to be an expert theorist and my experiences within the Anarchist movement have been limited. The only thing that I am sure of is this: We must build Solidarity while maintaining our Diversity. Any pre-defined system that replaces the capitalist state we have now will be just as evil.

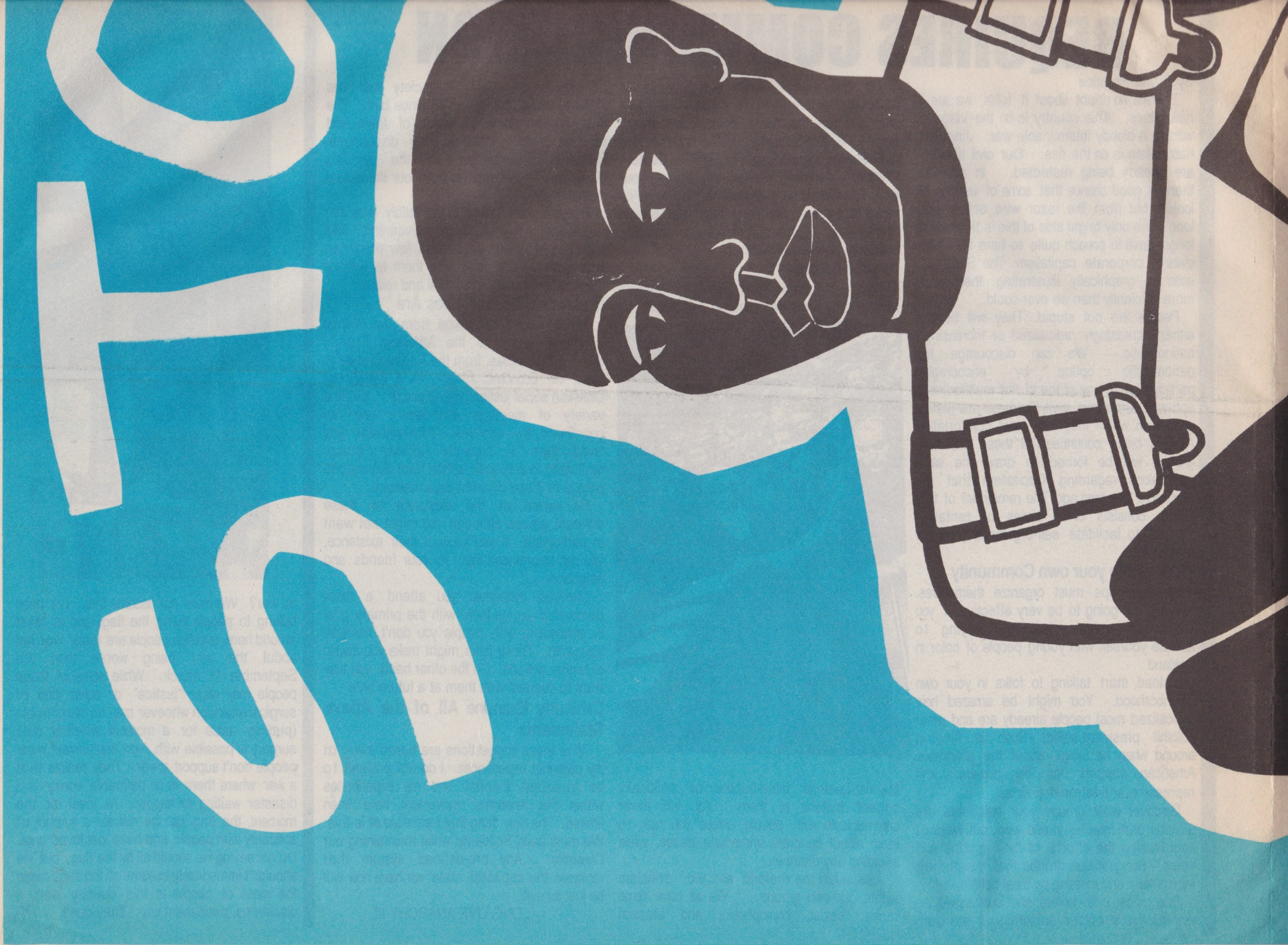
LONG LIVE ANARCHY !!!



of war? We must not assume this. I've been talking to people flying the flag, and at least around here, average people are really worried about the war being worse than the September 11 attack. While some of these people may want "justice" or some kind of *surgical* attack on whoever may be responsible (putting aside for a moment whether such *surgery* is possible with high explosives) most people don't support a war. They realize that a war where there is no definable *enemy* is a disaster waiting to happen. At least for the moment, the flag can be merely a symbol of solidarity with people who have lost loved ones. I'm not saying we should all fly the flag, but we shouldn't immediately assume all the flags mean the mass of people in this country want a disastrous, permanent war. They don't. PB













WINDOW BY SLINGSHOT
POSTER

We are not alone.

We know it's easy to feel isolated for being against the war in a sea of war-mongers. So, to inspire you and let you know you're not alone, we're including a list of some of the many anti-war events that have already taken place in such a short period of time! AS of 9-23-01

Anti-war events around the globe!

- Sydney, Australia: anti-war, anti-scapegoating rally = "No Retaliation"
- Chicago: local Direct Action Network called a organizing meeting, 200 in attendance to plan vigils.
- Minneapolis: "Black ribbon" campaign started, where people are tying black ribbons around trees instead of the traditional yellow ones.
- Bar Harbor, Maine: 70 people marched with banners at an anti-war rally at local college, against the attack on civil liberties.
- New Brunswick, NJ: several activist organizations are planning demos, including the local Food Not Bombs, who has released a statement regarding the current threat of war.
- St. Louis: Food Not Bombs put an anti-war theme on one of their servings. A pro-war passer-by alerted some cops who ordered banners and chalk messages removed per local "no signage" ordinance. The busybody objected further, so the cops shut the serving down completely. The whole crowd moved a block east and was able to continue serving.
- DC: Hundreds participated in an anti-war vigil Friday, Sept. 14.
- Philly: First meeting of Concerned Students Against Discrimination Thursday, Sept. 20, where 120 Penn State students, primarily people of Middle Eastern descent. Emphasis of the meetings has been the personal safety of students on campus due to recent
- Montreal: Lots of organizational meetings, vigils planned for every Friday, defense groups formed to protect people from racially-based attacks. Also an emergency rally is planned for if/when the US attacks another country.
- Toronto: Close to 300 attended meeting of concerned citizens to discuss and organize against the war hysteria and recent racist backlashes. Six working groups formed to take collective action.
- Portland: 3000 anti-war demonstrators rallied and walked around the block. It was a self-directed peaceful march with very little police presence.
- Concord CA: 300 attended a peaceful vigil downtown organized by a local youth group.
- Fresno CA: 400 attended a March for Unity, beginning at a church and ending at a mosque. Anti-war and anti-racist, pro-social and economic justice.
- Austin: 750 demonstrators held an anti-war protest Thursday, Sept. 20 although the mainstream media reported that there were "close to a hundred" there.
- Boston: 1000 people attended an anti-war vigil Wednesday, Sept. 19 at Copley Square. Hundreds marched afterwards to Harvard Square. Also peace vigil at Harvard the next day.
- Urbana, IL: 100 people met at the Urbana-Champaign IMC office to discuss anti-war thoughts and strategies.
- NYC: Several anti-war rallies and teach-ins, including a march on Sept. 21 from

Senate Democrats "UNIFY" Behind Bush

By Pirate Prentice

The Senate unanimously voted to restore \$1.3 billion to the defense budget for a "missile defense system" September 22.

Senate Democrats successfully denied funding for missile defense earlier this month. Now in this climate of war-hysteria, they unanimously voted to restore funding for a system that they know could not possibly work., a system designed to protect us against enemies who no longer exist.

Democratic Senator Carl Levin, chairman of the Armed Services Committee, urged the Senate to restore funding for this missile defense system he previously opposed. He also withdrew provisions from a bill that required Bush to obtain congressional approval before undertaking activities that would violate the

1972 Antiballistic Missile Treaty.

Senator Levin said he had backed off on those issues because "an attempt to resolve them now would create dissent where we need unity".

Unity. The one thing war is very effective at is creating unity by way of fear. Unity behind the president no matter how moronic his policies are. Unity behind a military that's receiving a \$343 billion defense budget this year, but cannot defend its own command center against a passenger plane. The Senate is sacrificing our civil rights with anti-terrorist legislation, but that's acceptable because it's in the name of Unity.

Repression in times of war has always been in the name of Unity. Wait and see.

Environmental THREATCON DELTA

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- DC: Hundreds participated in an anti-war vigil Friday, Sept. 14.
- Philly: First meeting of Concerned Students Against Discrimination Thursday, Sept. 20, where 120 Penn State students, primarily people of Middle Eastern descent. Emphasis of the meetings has been the personal safety of students on campus due to recent racially-motivated attacks, as well as holding the mainstream media accountable for its misinformation.
- London: Peace vigil outside Downing St., about 300 in attendance. Also a smaller rally met outside the Parliament building. There was heavy police presence there, and one protester was assaulted by a cop. The rally then joined up with the larger rally at Downing St.
- Atlanta: 200 anti-war protesters met downtown Saturday, Sept. 15 at Woodruff Park, including workers' organizations, monks, and revolutionary knitters. Also 100 people gathered for a peace vigil outside Martin Luther King, Jr.'s tomb.
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- NYC: Several anti-war rallies and teach-ins, including a march on Sept. 21 from Union Square to Times Square.
- New Orleans: anti-war vigil took place Saturday, Sept. 15. More vigils planned.
- Quebec: Two anti-war student walk-outs took place Wednesday, Sept. 12 (that's less than a day to organize!!!), one at a high school and one at a women's college.
- Troy, NY: Local Quaker, Catholic Worker, and pagan communities organized a peace rally Saturday, Sept. 15 with 200 in attendance, near an Uncle Sam statue. Banners and flowers a-plenty.
- Houston: 60 anti-war demonstrators gathered Friday, Sept. 14 at the Federal Building, asking to "end the cycle of violence."

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Repression in times of war has always been in the name of Unity. Wait and see.

Environmental THREATCON DELTA

The US is in crisis and the Bush administration is scrambling to exploit the few remaining natural resources that aren't locked down. While Congress is so concerned about anti-terrorist strategy and spending billions to fight an undefined enemy, why is there still talk of drilling for oil in Alaska? The country is thirsty for the instant gratification of war. All efforts for preservation of natural resources and developing renewable energy sources are going in the toilet.

Now, more than ever, environmentalists need to keep monitoring national policies.

Congress has already authorized huge increases in military funding. This means consequent decreases in funding for federal EPA, toxic waste clean-up and the few

remaining federal agencies that were supposed to be monitoring or cleaning up our environment.

Factories will try to increase production while decreasing costs by not treating their raw sewage. Instead they will recklessly dump toxic waste directly into our environment. They will justify these actions as "crucial for the National Defense".

This issue has not been addressed by the media. We can't be distracted and let those in power undermine what few environmental laws we have left.

While it is crucial to organize for peace and anti-racism, we cannot look away from the continuous threat of environmental degradation that existed before September 11. That threat is even more critical now.

Get Informed! Get Hooked In!

- London: Peace vigil outside Downing St., about 300 in attendance. Also a smaller rally met outside the Parliament building. There was heavy police presence there, and one protester was assaulted by a cop. The rally then joined up with the larger rally at Downing St.
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Beware! The corporate/mainstream media is rife with misinformation, not to mention run by and for the ruling class. To get clued in to various anti-war efforts, contact some of the following organizations/media sources.

RAWA (Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan) is a political/social organization of Afghan women struggling for peace, freedom, democracy and women's rights in fundamentalism-blighted Afghanistan.
www.rawa.org
 0092-300-8551638
 760-281-9855 (USA)
 0044-870-1394051 (UK)

Arm the Spirit, an autonomist/anti-imperialist info collective out of Toronto
<http://burn.ucsd.edu/~ats/>
 P.O. Box 6326, Stn. A
 Toronto, Ont.
 M5W 1P7 Canada

American Civil Liberties Union Freedom Network
www.aclu.org
 415-621-2493

Global Exchange SF
www.globalexchange.org
 415-255-7296

Grassroots Organizers from the Muslim & Arab Community
 877-282-2288

National Police Accountability Project Inc. (NPAP)
 c/o Center for Constitutional Rights
 666 Broadway, 7th Floor
 New York, NY 10012
 phone: (212) 614-6432
 fax: (212) 614-6499
 e-mail: policeproject@nlg.org

QPIRG at McGill
 3647 University Street, 3rd Floor
 Montréal, QC, H3A 2B3, Canada

National Coalition to Protect Political Freedom Defending the Constitutional Rights of Political Expression and Association, for Immigrants and Citizens Alike
 3321- 12th St, NE, Washington DC 20017
 202-529-4225, 202-526-4611-fax

Colours of Resistance
www.tao.ca/~colours
 Grassroots network of people who actively work to develop multiracial, anti-racist politics in the movement against global capitalism.
 c/o Shakti Women of Colour Collective

Peoples' Global Action
www.agp.org
 c/o Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW), 377 Bank Street,
 Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
 e-mail: pga@agp.org

American Arab Anti Discrimination Committee
 4201 Connecticut Ave, N.W.; Suite 300
 Washington, D.C. 20008, USA
 phone: (202) 244-2990
 telefax: (202) 244-3196
 E-Mail: ADC@adc.org

Tech-heads: the following are alternative media web-sites you can consult for news:
www.infoshop.org
www.indymedia.org
www.media-alliance.org
www.ainfos.ca
www.weareeverywhere.org
www.globalissues.org
www.palestine-info.com
www.ripsawnews.com

DON'T KISS YOUR RIGHTS GOODBYE



In these dangerous times, activists and everyone else need to be especially careful about police repression. Here are some hints on resisting government repression. The most important response, though, is to avoid succumbing to the disruption and paranoia of government attacks. Keep focused on the goal of building a new society.

What rights do I have?

The Right to Advocate for Change. The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects the rights of groups and individuals who advocate changes in laws, government practices, and even the form of government.

The Right to Remain Silent. The Fifth Amendment of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to remain silent in the face of questions posed by any police officer or government agent.

The Right to be Free from "Unreasonable Searches and Seizures." The Fourth Amendment is supposed to protect your privacy. Without a warrant, no government agent is allowed to search your home or office and you can refuse to let them in. Know, however, that it is easy for the government to monitor your telephone calls, conversations in your office, home, car, or meeting place, as well as mail. E-mail is particularly insecure. The government has already begun stepping up its monitoring of e-mails. Use of an encryption program such as PGP offers relatively secure protection for e-mail communication.

Constitutional Rights Cannot Be Suspended – Even During A State Of Emergency Or Wartime.

Never Talk to the Police

You don't have to talk to FBI agents, police investigators. You do not have to talk to

Anything you say to a FBI agent or cop may be used against you and other people. Once you've been stopped or arrested, you can't talk your way out of it. Don't try to engage cops in a dialogue or respond to accusations. If you are nervous about simply refusing to talk, you may find it easier to tell them to contact your lawyer. Once a lawyer is involved, the FBI and police usually back off because they've lost their power to intimidate. Don't lie to the police--lying to the police is a crime. If you've been arrested, don't talk about anything sensitive in police cars or jail cells, and don't talk to other inmates--you are probably being recorded.

Police Harassment on the Street

If the police stop you on the street, ask, "Am I free to go?" If yes, walk away. If not, you are being detained. Ask "Can you explain why you are detaining me?" To stop you, cops must have specific reasons to suspect you of involvement in a specific crime (not just a guess or stereotype.)

If the police try to search you, your car, or your home, say repeatedly that you do not consent to the search, but do not physically resist.

Fight police harassment by watching the cops. You have a right to be in public and to observe police activity. Write down all police officer's names & badge numbers, addresses of witnesses, the time, date, place and details of the incident, etc. If stopped, get people to watch for you.

If Police Visit your Home

You do not have to let the FBI or police into your home or office unless they have a search or arrest warrant. Demand to see the warrant. It must specifically describe the place to be

and don't bring address books to protests if there is a chance of arrest.

Police infiltrators attempt to get information about organizations, disrupt them by creating splits and disorganization in meetings and in individual's lives, and entrap activists by urging insecure, reckless illegal activity. They often disrupt groups, ironically, by promoting destructive witch hunts for infiltrators! Check out the authenticity of any disturbing letter, rumor, phone call or other communication before acting on it. Ask the supposed source if she or he is responsible. Deal openly and honestly with the differences in our movements (race, gender, class, age, religion, sexual orientation, etc.) before the FBI and police can exploit them.

Don't try to expose a suspected agent or informer without solid proof. Purges based on mere suspicion only help the FBI and police create distrust and paranoia. It generally works better to criticize what a disruptive person says and does without speculating as to why.

Adopt a Security Culture

Activists who are part of a security culture know behaviors that compromise security and quickly educate anyone who endangers security. When all members of a scene understand security and correct mistakes, risky behavior becomes unacceptable and will stop. People in the scene who gossip, brag or ask for unnecessary information about underground groups or illegal activities are a severe danger to the movement. The first time this happens, take such a person aside and gently educate them in private about why such talk is a danger. Be careful not to preach, injure the individual's pride or raise defenses

**IMMIGRANTS
PROTECT
YOUR STATUS**

What if I am not a citizen?

1. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO REVEAL YOUR IMMIGRATION STATUS.

2. DO NOT TALK TO THE INS, EVEN ON THE PHONE, before talking to an immigration lawyer. Many INS officers view "enforcement," meaning deporting people, as their primary job. They do not believe that explaining immigration options is part of their job, and most will readily admit this. (Noncitizens who are victims of domestic abuse should speak with an expert in both immigration law and domestic violence.) A noncitizen should always speak with an immigration law expert before speaking to the INS either in person or by telephone.

3. KNOW AND ASSERT YOUR RIGHTS!

All noncitizens have the following rights, regardless of your immigration status:

1. The right to speak to an attorney before answering any questions or signing any documents;

2. The right to a hearing with an Immigration Judge;

3. The right to have an attorney at that hearing and in any interview with INS (however you do not have the right to a free, government-paid lawyer); and

4. The right to request release from detention, by paying a bond if necessary. Noncitizens must assert these rights. If you do not demand these rights, you can be deported without seeing either an attorney or a judge. Leaving the U.S. in this way may have serious consequences for your ability to later

Amendment of the Constitution provides that every person has the right to remain silent in the face of questions posed by any police officer or government agent.

The Right to be Free from "Unreasonable Searches and Seizures." The Fourth Amendment is supposed to protect your privacy. Without a warrant, no government agent is allowed to search your home or office and you can refuse to let them in. Know, however, that it is easy for the government to monitor your telephone calls, conversations in your office, home, car, or meeting place, as well as mail. E-mail is particularly insecure. The government has already begun stepping up its monitoring of e-mails. Use of an encryption program such as PGP offers relatively secure protection for e-mail communication.

Constitutional Rights Cannot Be Suspended – Even During A State Of Emergency Or Wartime.

Never Talk to the Police

You don't have to talk to FBI agents, police or investigators. You do not have to talk to them on the street, if you've been arrested, or if you're in jail. Only a judge has the authority to order you to answer questions. (**many activists have refused to answer questions even when ordered by a judge or grand jury and served jail time to avoid implicating others instead. Sometime these comrades didn't spend many months in jail if they had good lawyers—consider this option.)



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If they do present a warrant, you do not have to tell them anything other than your name and address. You have a right to observe what they do. You should take written notes of what they do, their names, badge numbers, etc. Have friends who are present act as witnesses.

If You Are Arrested

Repeatedly tell the police "I don't want to talk until my lawyer is present." You have a right to make 3 telephone calls if you've been arrested on state charges and booked into jail. Demand this right.

Dealing with infiltrators and provocateurs

Don't talk about, speculate on or circulate rumors about protest actions or potentially illegal acts. Assume you are under surveillance if you are organizing mass direct action or anything illegal. Be careful what you say, especially what you say on the phone, in political centers, or in email. Keep phone lists secure



Afghanistan is ethnically and linguistically diverse. At least 30 languages are spoken there. The ethnic groups include Pashtuns, the Hazara, the Tajiks and the Uzbeks. Even though Afghanistan is so diverse they have

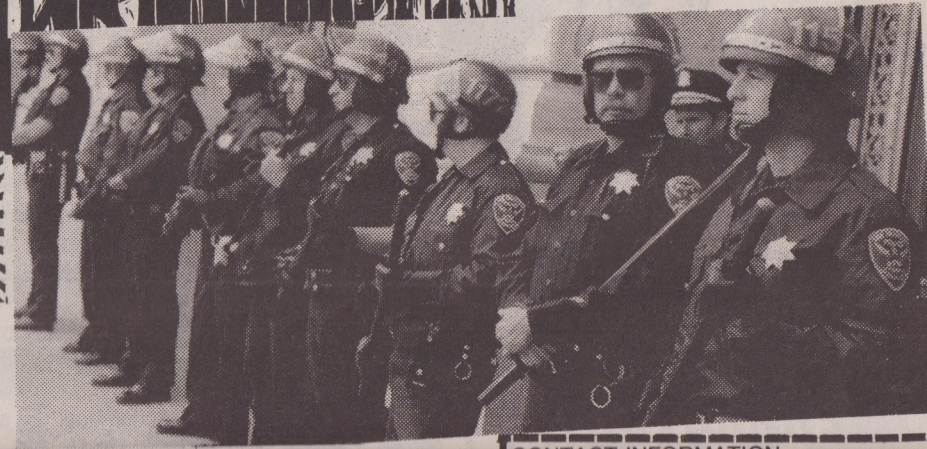
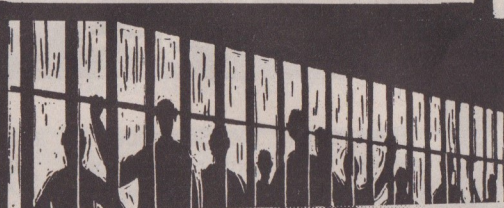
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Sources: *National Lawyers Guild Demonstrations Committee (415 285-1055), The War at Home by Brian Glick, Copwatch (510 548-0425).*



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4. The right to request release from detention, by paying a bond if necessary. Noncitizens must assert these rights. If you

do not demand these rights, you can be deported without seeing either an attorney or a judge. Leaving the U.S. in this way may have serious consequences for your ability to later enter or to gain legal immigration status in the U.S.

4. TALK TO AN IMMIGRATION LAWYER BEFORE LEAVING THE U.S.

Anyone not a U.S. citizen may be barred from coming back to the U.S. if they fall into certain categories of people barred from entering. This includes some lawful permanent residents and applicants for green cards. Some noncitizens that have been in the U.S. without INS permission may be permanently barred from re-entering. In addition, some noncitizens that leave the US and return with INS permission may be swiftly removed from the U.S. if they end up in immigration proceedings.

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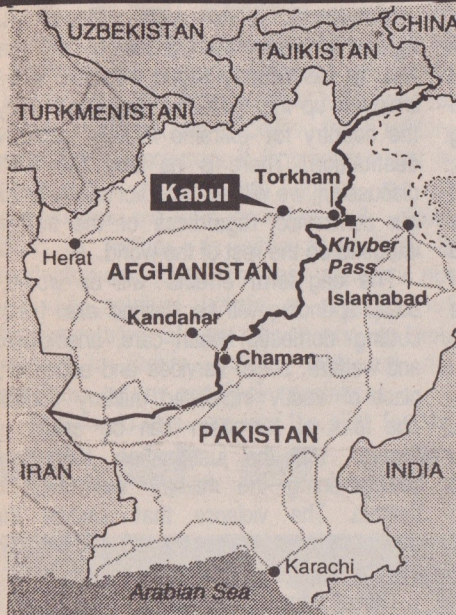
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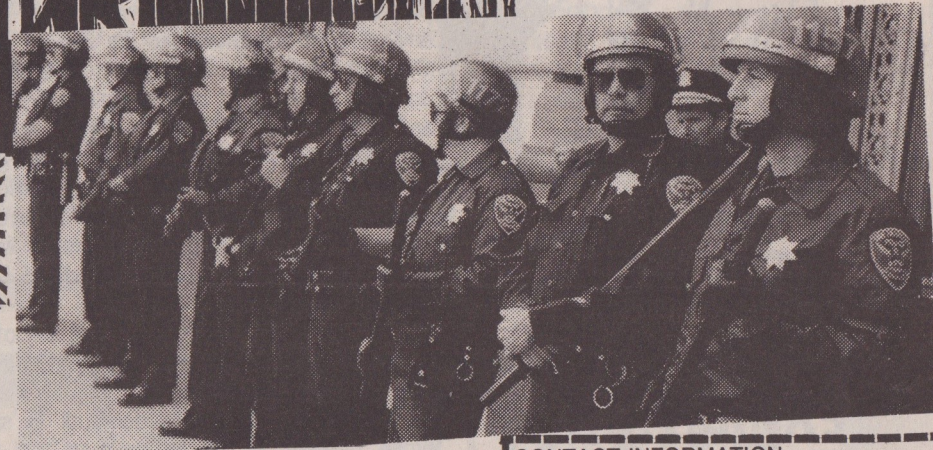
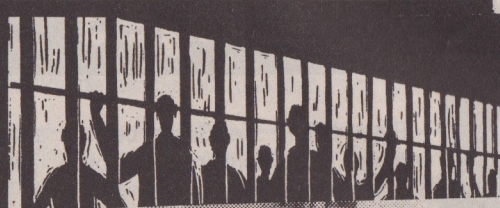
TURMOIL: A BRIEF HISTORY OF AFGHANISTAN

Imperialists have been fighting over Afghanistan for hundreds of years. Both the Russians(USSR) and British have fought losing battles there. Afghanistan is between Europe and the Indian sub-continent and so necessary for the imperialist aims of Britain and Russia. Russia (and then the Soviet Union) wanted a warm water port on the Arabian Sea. Britain wanted to protect their imperialistic aims in northern India (now Pakistan).

Afghanistan is ethnically and linguistically diverse. At least 30 languages are spoken there. The ethnic groups include Pashtuns, the Hazara, the Tajiks and the Uzbeks. Even though Afghanistan is so diverse they have resisted intrusion from outsiders. In 1841 the British suffered a major defeat. About 20,000 soldiers and their dependants were massacred at the end of the first Anglo-Afghan war. There was only one survivor.

In 1973 the Soviet Union was hoping the government that came to power after the overthrow of King Zahir Shah would do their bidding. But such was not the case and in 1979 the Soviets invaded. That war lasted a decade and saw the US get involved fighting a proxy war against the USSR by supporting the mujahedeen, muslim fundamentalists. The mujahedeen captured Kabul in 1992 but there was infighting among the various factions and in 1996 the Taliban faction took over Kabul and most of the country.

Today Afghanistan is suffering from a four year drought as well as the excesses of the Taliban regime. No doubt the regular people would appreciate help with both problems. Further destruction of their land for imperialist aims won't help.



WHAT RIGHTS?



CONTACT INFORMATION

Partnership for Civil Justice
In Washington, DC, request assistance or report incidents of harassment to:
(202)530-5630 or legal@justiceonline.org
National Lawyers Guild
National office(212)627-2656www.nlg.org
National Immigration Project:
(617) 227-9727
First Amendment Foundation
A resource on civil liberties and the right of political dissent. (202) 529-4225.
National Immigration Law Center
Immigration law information is available on www.nilc.org
America Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee
Report hate crimes and harassment against Arab Americans and Muslims to
(202) 244-2990.
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)
Advocating for American-Muslim rights and against acts of discrimination.
(202) 488-8787

EWOKS PLOT TO DISRUPT G8 SUMMIT IN THE FOREST OF ENDOR

BACKGROUND: In order to avoid the impact of dissenting voices at next year's G8 Summit in 2002, Canada's Prime Minister (henceforth referred to as the Big Cheese™) has chosen to move the meeting to the mountain resort of Kananaskis. [The G8 are the leaders of the world's richest and most powerful countries. Their last meeting in Genoa, Italy was protested by 100,000 people and led to the shooting death of anti-globalization protester Carlo Giuliani.] In order to aid protesters in their planning for the 2002 Summit, the Deconstructionist Institute for Surreal Topology (DIST) commissioned this study to assess the prospects for direct action during the summit.

A number of our security experts visited the site, and conducted a thorough survey of the area. Our top researchers then analyzed the data, and have issued the following interim report. It is intended for informational purposes only, and can serve as a basis for the first spokescouncil meeting (to be held in Edmonton).

CONCLUSION: Kananaskis was chosen by the Big Cheese™ because of its remote location, and because the only road leading to the resort is easy to seal off. However, the Cheese forgot one thing - the location is remote and is easy to seal off.

The terrain is ideal for hippies, crappy for cops. Can you imagine riot troops in full body armor plodding through dense forests? What were they thinking?! Don't they remember Vietnam?! Don't they remember Return of the Jedi when the Ewoks kicked Stormtrooper ass in the forest of Endor?

SUGGESTED ACTION PLAN: Protests

around summits are usually given labels to mark a day of protest (for example J26 to signify a protest on June 26th). It is advised that protesters drop the numbers. The letter J will do nicely - a month of intense resistance...and a refreshing change of tactics.

DETAILS of ACTION PLAN: Early May. Hold a training camp in Kananaskis to allow participants to get a feel for the location. Plan, strategize and hold workshops. Consider it a dry run. Participants can learn vital skills such as how to incorporate grizzly bears into a direct action.

June 1st, 2002: Tree huggers begin blockading the road leading in and out of Kananaskis. A wilderness area should not have thousands of police plodding through it. The road is ideal for Robin Hood tactics. Block-and-run style; tripods; cars with their wheels removed. It's one real long road, and they can't defend it. Stop The Man from setting up their security equipment and preparing the site.



June 7th: Set up tent city on the edge of Kananaskis. Have a huge festival of resistance including music, workshops, food, naked hippies. Create space.

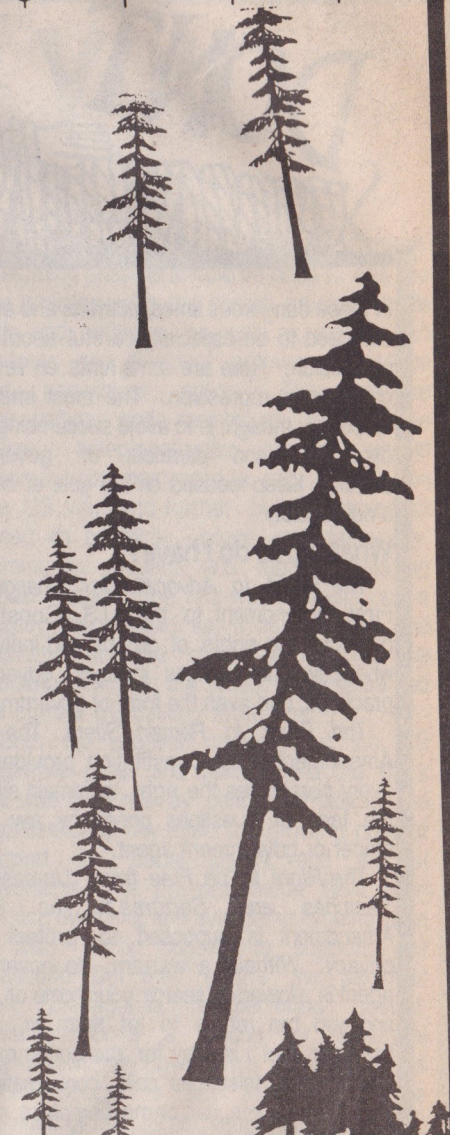
June 10th: Critical Mass rides begin along the highway leading to the site. Stockpiling mountain bikes will be key later on. When they block the road, anarchists will bike around them.

June 13th: Affinity groups and assorted desperados move deep into the zone, and set up outposts. Bring a video camera to protect yourselves from getting batoned. Stick together. Pretend it's a giant game of hide and seek. Use tactics inspired by the Ewoks. Maximum disruption combined with maximum cuddliness. Anarcho-hippies can climb trees; they know how to use ropes; they love it out in the mountains, and even enjoy eating fungus. For a good laugh, watch the cops try to get protesters out of the tree tops. Did you see Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon?

June 22nd: The tent city moves onto the meeting site. Protesters seal off the road before the cops do. Lockdowns, hiding, running, and regrouping. With enough people, the space can be defended.

June 25th: For people that arrive late: hike into the zone. Don't forget your rope ladders, and try to avoid the traffic jams along the hiking trails. Ewoks shut down the force field generator. Watch in mild amusement as the black-bloc searches in vain for a McDonald's to smash. Oh, did we mention rope ladders? Victory will go to those with the most rope ladders (and the best pants).

June 26th: Summit canceled - too many fuckin' Ewoks in the area.



Not Who

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Not Who But Why

Continued from page 1

However, the prominent question that the mainstream media is asking is Who's to blame? That's an understandable question. But I think the nature of the answers to this question require some analysis. The blatant anti-Arab racism that is being displayed throughout all of this, for instance, is dangerous. We don't know who's to blame — considering US global aggression, it could be anyone. But showing pictures of Palestinians dancing in the streets, or Osama bin Laden talking, or other images of Arabs while speculating about the attackers is causing nothing short of unnecessary hatred and racism. There has been almost no input allowed by the Arabs being shown on TV, since their voices are not present and since the press doesn't ask them.

The result of all of this has caused anti-Arab hostility to reach even greater heights. Islamic groups all across the country are receiving death threats, and cab drivers are being pulled out of their cars and beaten. No



The reaction to all of this by the United States will be severe. The immediate emphasis by the State and press is revenge. The world will feel our "wrath," as Hillary Clinton put it, and our enemies will suffer terrible consequences. A full scale military attack against whomever the US sees fit will result, and, as has already begun, hysteria is being whipped up into patriotic jingoism, readying the country for extreme military action and destruction. There is no time for further discussion, we will act, and act swiftly to exert our dominance, regardless of the suffering imposed on the rest of the world.

The long term effects will be worse; as social spending will be slashed even further, cutting domestic health care, unemployment and welfare, social services and education, in place of vastly increased military spending. The fear of terrorism can be called upon forever, and the justification for further strengthening the military will reach new heights. The violence that caused these

Judi Bari Trial Delayed

Right before the September 11 attack, activists in Northern California were preparing for an epic showdown between the environmental movement and the FBI — the October 1 jury trial in Earth First! activist Judi Bari's civil rights lawsuit against the FBI and the Oakland police. Right after September 11, realizing that Judi couldn't get a fair trial with all the pro-government nationalism following the attack, Judi's lawyers moved to delay the trial. Their motion was granted and her trial is now scheduled for April 8, 2002.

Even though April seems like a long way off,

BERKELEY

RADICAL PHOTO

BERKELEY RADICAL PHOTO EXHIBITION

The Whole World's Watching is an extraordinary exhibition which examines the rich history of the social movements of the 1960s and 1970s through documentary photography. With a focus on Northern California where many of these activists were born, distinguished photographers illuminate the rise of the Black Panthers, the Free Speech and anti-war movements, feminism, disability rights, environmental activism, the struggle for gay rights and the cultural milieu which formed and informed them.

The exhibition presents 100 images taken during those turbulent times by noted photographers. A 160 page catalog accompanies the exhibition. The exhibition runs through December 15 at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut Street in live Oak Park. Admission is free. Hours are Wednesday - Sunday, Noon - 5.

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Even though April seems like a long way off, it's not too early to continue organizing to build public support for Judi's trial.

A car bomb exploded under Judi as she drove her car in Oakland as part of an organizing drive for Redwood Summer, the 1990 series of protests to preserve California's last old growth redwood trees.

The bomber was never apprehended and Judi and Darryl Cherney (a passenger in the car at the time) were arrested and charged with bombing themselves! The lawsuit alleges that the FBI and the Oakland Police Department framed Judi and Darryl. Instead of trying to find the real bomber, the FBI and the OPD tried to smear Judi and Darryl's reputation in an attempt to disrupt the Redwood Summer protest.

In the ten years the lawsuit has been pending, Judi and Darryl's lawyers have uncovered shocking evidence of FBI and police misconduct, while surviving numerous government motions to dismiss the case.

For information on how you can help, please contact: *The Redwood Summer Justice Project*, PO Box 14720, Santa Rosa, CA 95402, 707-887-0262. Donations should be earmarked for the lawsuit.

Continued from page 1

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The result of all of this has caused anti-Arab hostility to reach even greater heights. Islamic groups all across the country are receiving death threats, and cab drivers are being pulled out of their cars and beaten. No other form of racism in the country is so openly tolerated today, and flashing photos of Arabs on the screen while white politicians talk about revenge only increases these sentiments. The US media is creating an enemy, hyping up the nation into a hysteria of revenge, and creating a war environment which encourages us to ignore dissenting opinion and do and think whatever the government commands.

If the attack on the Pentagon and World Trade Center were, in fact, the retaliatory result of our own brutal actions against our neighbors, then the responsibility for the attacks ultimately falls on our own shoulders. The US can only beat up everyone else for so long before someone hits back. If we weren't constantly bombing the rest of the world, enforcing severe corporate dominance and imposing US aggression on everybody else then there would be much less of a chance of others attacking us out of revenge. The question of Who did it should only be explored with the backdrop of Why it happened, in which case the responsibility for the Pentagon and World Trade Center attacks, and the thousands of deaths, becomes primarily our own.

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These things considered, we should be addressing the question of What to do in an entirely different light. Instead of blaming Arabs and gearing up for a full-scale war, we should be acting more responsibly. We should be asking President Bush not who did it, but instead, What has our government and the business elite who control it, done that is so egregious that people have gone to such extremes to get us back. We should be demanding answers, asking Why did this happen? What have we done that is so bad to have caused this?

So long as we continue to abuse the rest of the world, using our rogue super power, then violence at home and abroad will continue. The attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon were horrendous; by no means justified, and ultimately a boon to power. But it is the painful result of our worldwide capitalist military regime. The responsible thing to do at this point is refuse to side with the military in their retaliation, and demand the corporate state address their own involvement in recalcitrant global terrorism.

Watch Your Back

Continued from page 1

- Civilian courts were suspended in peaceful regions of the country-especially where Democrats held power-allowing trial in military courts.

-During World War I:

- In 1918, Eugene Debs, was tried, convicted and sentenced to ten years in prison for a speech in which he criticized the conviction of several World War I-era draft resisters and opponents of conscription. He served three years before being granted a pardon.

- Upton Sinclair was arrested for reading the Bill of Rights at a rally.

- Roger Baldwin of the ACLU was arrested for reading the Constitution. All of this was made possible by the Sedition act which permitted the government to target dissents in the U.S.

-During World War II:

- We found it appropriate to put over 110,000 Japanese-Americans in "holding" camps (also known as concentration camps).

The only legal authority for the Vietnam War was the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, which was found to have been based on a fabrication almost immediately after it was passed.

The First War Powers Act granted the President broad powers to censor mail, cable, radio, or other means of communication.

The Second War Powers Act allowed the government to exercise broad economic powers, including seizing private property (this can be done under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act if national emergency is declared).

The Middle East has been treated by the media much the same as the Soviet Union was during the Red Scare. Activists and critical civilians alike were rounded up in peacetime red scares for years. The "with us or against us" attitude will inevitably lead to a conflict between lovers of freedom and nationalists. The Combating Terrorism Act of 2001 has been passed by the Senate, greatly expanding the power of federal authorities to censor

Not  LAUGHING



NYC Anarchist's Account

For A World Without The Terror Of States

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The Middle East has been treated by the media much the same as the Soviet Union was during the Red Scare. Activists and critical civilians alike were rounded up in peacetime red scares for years. The "with us or against us" attitude will inevitably lead to a conflict between lovers of freedom and nationalists. The Combating Terrorism Act of 2001 has been passed by the Senate, greatly expanding the power of federal authorities to spy on online communication, and some are even talking about national identification cards.

"Operation Infinite Justice" has led to what is the most frightening attack on our liberty: the new cabinet position for "Homeland Security" which will enable increased communication between the police and the military and give law enforcement the "tools they need to track terror at home." This, folks, means martial law, justified injuries, deaths, and imprisonment of protesters (terrorists). With all of this the American public will be too frightened and swayed by the mass media to act.

If the government was so concerned with security why would they allow airport security to be run in the private sector (minimum wage workers) and why would they oppose FBI background checks on the workers? We need to be aware and raise questions of the ulterior motives of our government. The National Security Agency is huge and has incredible resources and knowledge. The National Security Agency was responsible for creating a pretext for the invasion of Cuba (one idea was to shoot down a CIA plane designed to replicate a passenger flight and announce that Cuban forces shot it down) and has been listening to Osama's telephone conversations for years. It is not plausible to believe that NSA didn't have knowledge of a planned



NYC Anarchist's Account

For A World Without The Terror Of States

By NYC Anarchist

New York City's financial center is still burning. As the rescue workers dig up the ruins buried embers reignite. The pall of smoke trickling from lower Manhattan is a constant reminder of the carnage and devastation NYC is just beginning to cope with. Rescue workers tell grim tales of body parts and charred remains. The papers posted all over town with "missing" written above their picture are getting worn and sadly ironic in the firm conviction that there is no one left to save. Except the rest of us perhaps.

The larger activist community in New York has sprung into action. A call went out and the meeting mobilizing for the Washington, DC IMF / World Bank protest was immediately transformed into a 150 person coalition to fight the drive toward war and the inevitable racist backlash. Four days later we met again and there were over 300. The coalition includes anti-globalization folks plus Vieques support, anti-prisons groups, Palestinian support, anarchists, older peace activists, and downtown students, many just arrived in NYC.



taped to the ground with markers everywhere moving and expressing the torrent of feelings, most calling for mourning and for peace. A humble arab artist made a statue of a candle. Open dialogue circles erupted spontaneously and continue. There is a debate going on and people are not waiting to be spoon fed their dose. This happened here and we need to work this shit out. The scene is like a happening or a free state with people sharing food and music and a rare retreat for the NYPD. A chant of war was overpowered by Unity. The space is jammed with mini memorials to lost loved ones, flowers, candles, written texts. Sadly it is becoming a attraction for religious fanatics and tourists as well but the space is constantly transforming and fascinating.

You notice in the city that those closest to the blast zone felt it the most. They are the

Years of terror swept away. Thousands of New Yorkers showed up to volunteer and were turned away day after day. We have been invaded and martial law continues in the financial district. What is the value of the 11 tons of gold buried under tons of smoldering rubble? As the world bank is forced into limbo and the protests go on in DC against a racists war machine we need to take a breath and reevaluate the anti-corporate globalization movement. It is a time to expand our scope and talk directly to the terror of bombing and sanctions as part of a larger call for global justice. The blood soaked billions are backed by guns in the hands of our puppet dictator's minions as well as domestic police. Prison and drug war policy are our own domestic terror to keep a nation enslaved. Both Columbia and Afghanistan have been major tools in drug production. Where the US intervenes drug production flourishes.

The world will never be the same. And an increasingly militant movement has been pushed off of center stage by military terror. We were the warning that this was coming. We

The "war on terrorism" will be a combination of the war on drugs and the Vietnam war: sustained, bloody persecution at home and across the sea. When will it end? As soon as we make it end, because they

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Whether it is only to go forward with the militarization of space, or whether there are reasons beyond our wildest imagination, we must urge ourselves and the public to replace emotional immersion with logical analysis and education. It is crucial to be aware of the patriotism that September 11 spawned because this patriotism will blossom into hatred of dissidents and will justify a violent response by police and military to protesters in America. Today may be the day to read up on the counter intelligence program

(cointelpro) used by the FBI on activists in the 60's and 70's (check out Ward Churchill) because the death in Genoa will not be the last and we may soon find ourselves in the spotlight-demonized by the media, stoned by our neighbors, and hunted down by "Homeland Security."

"During times of universal deceit telling the truth is a revolutionary act." George Orwell

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While another huge coalition of old left and labor groups is arguing in midtown, the downtown coalition has done a candle light vigil against war and the racist backlash and the nations first major march from Union Square to the Times Square army recruiting station. The police tried to box us in but the five thousand person strong march proved too slippery and eventually took Times Square. Seven were arrested for standing on the sidewalk with the help of police from NJ, PA, OH, upstate NY, and the national guard. A motley invasion of our city has taken place.

New Yorkers are acting in a very new way. People are talking to each other, sometimes reaching out for support, sometimes arguing. Union Square has transformed itself spontaneously into a people's free space. It began the night of the tragedy with people gathering at the edge of the police state zone around pieces of paper that individuals had

ones having the hardest time shaking off the tremors. We are just beginning to heal. Understand first and foremost that there were poor working people of color hit hard. Undocumented workers killed will probably never be identified. As the stock market opened and the financial dust storm kicked back into a nose dive, people all over the city still cannot get their welfare and workfare checks or food stamps. It's not hard to see where the city's priorities lie. And Adolph Giuliani has been transformed from lame duck wasted furniture to international hero and is in charge of \$20 billion in rehab. I wonder what his priorities will be in distributing the cash. The NYPD moral and recruitment were at an all time low. They were backed into a corner.

were screaming for this nation to wake up to its burden. Now we face the backlash against civil liberties at home. The "war on terrorism" will be a combination of the war on drugs and the Vietnam war: sustained, bloody persecution at home and across the sea. When will it end? As soon as we make it end, because they are creating a endless cycle of blood lust we must stop.

There are funeral services all over town. When people point down town you know what they mean. This horror. Now we get a taste. Sickening. A rescue worker showed me the blood on his gloves and described the stench. Terror breeds terror. This is the intent of right wing fundamentalists pushed to the brink and lashing out. Our right wing and theirs, working in unison. We need to bring this to a halt. No more innocents can die.

Love from NYC, for a world without the terror of states.

ACTION CALENDAR

October

October 11 7pm

Know Your Rights in the New America? Forum & Speak Out UC Berkeley 145 Dwinelle 510-548-0425

October 12 6pm

Critical Mass Berkeley Meet at Berkeley BART

October 12 7-9pm

Will Star Wars Make Us Safe? 2951 Derby St. Berkeley 510-849-3020

October 13

Day of Protest Stop Militarization of Space. Gainesville, FL & Atlanta GA www.space4peace.org

October 14 9:30am-3pm

Conference/Discussion/Debate: *Labor, the Environment, & Public Power* 5 Berry St SF, 415-282-1908

October 16 6am

Shutdown the Economic Centre of Canada .Nathan Philips Square, Toronto. ontario.indymedia.org

October 17 7pm

Unearthing Truth: Building Justice in Guatemala 2362 Bancroft Way Berkeley. 415-826-3593

October 19

Anti-EU, Gent

October 21 8pm

Arise Concious Hip-Hop Open Mic, Poetry, & Spoken Word 1357 5th St., West Oakland \$3 510-625-1504

October 22

Stop Police Brutality. www.october22.org

October 22

National Women's Day of Action hamp.hampshire.edu/~clpp/NYWDA/nywda.html

October 29-30

SHAC(Stop Huntington Animal Cruelty) Little Rock, Arkansas 111 Center St.

November

November 2 5-6pm

Sacramento Critical Mass. Meet at North Capital Steps. www.bclu.org/sactocm/

November 4&5

Film-Boom-The Sound of Eviction 3117 16th St. (@Valencia) SF

November 9 6pm

Critical Mass Berkeley. Meet at Berkeley BART

November 9-15

Global Solidarity Against the WTO (Qatar)

November 16-18

School of Americas Protest. Ft. Benning, GA www.soaw.org

November 30

WTO Anniversary/Qatar Solidarity Protest Seattle, WA

December

December 14 6pm

Critical Mass Berkeley. Meet at Berkeley BART

December 14

Brussels Anti-EU Demonstration. Belgium.indymedia.org

December 16

Slingshot new volunteer meeting. Help plan issue #74. 4 p.m. 3124 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

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Monday: Women only space
Tuesday: Anarchist History Class @ 8 p.m.

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